

article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", said new paragraph to be known as Paragraph (23A), to follow immediately after Paragraph (23) of said Section 6, and to be under the new sub-heading "Pensions for Policemen and Firemen", authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to establish and maintain a separate system of pensions and retirement benefits for certain of the officers and employees of the Department of Aviation, of the Police Department and of the Fire Department of Baltimore City, relating generally to the terms and conditions applicable to said retirement system and providing that the provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in substitution of any powers and authorizations now conferred upon the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new paragraph be and it is hereby added to Section 6 of the Charter and Public Local Laws of Baltimore City (1949 Edition), being Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", said new paragraph to be known as Paragraph (23A), to follow immediately after Paragraph (23) of said Section 6, to be under the new sub-heading "Pensions for Policemen and Firemen", and to read as follows:

6.

(23A) *Pensions for Policemen and Firemen.*

*To establish and maintain a separate system of pensions and retirement benefits for such officers and employees of the Department of Aviation, of the Police Department and of the Fire Department of Baltimore City as may be designated or described by Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore; to fix the terms of and restrictions on admission to such system and the classifications therein; to provide that persons eligible for admission in such pension system shall not be eligible except as hereinafter provided for admission to any other pension system, the revenues of which are derived wholly or in part from appropriations made by the City, from license fees or from fines and forfeitures imposed under the laws or ordinances in force in Baltimore City; to provide for the optional transfer to such pension system of any officer or employee of either the Department of Aviation, the Police Department or the Fire Department of Baltimore City who is eligible to join such separate pension system, from any other system of pensions and retirement benefits operated and maintained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore; to provide in connection with such pension system, a system of benefits payable to the beneficiaries and dependents of any participant in such pension system after the death of such participant (whether accidental or otherwise and/or whether occurring in the actual performance of duty or otherwise), subject to such exceptions, conditions, restrictions and classifications as may be provided by ordinance; provided, however, (1) that upon the adoption of an ordinance providing for their participation in such pension system, eligible officers and employees of the Department of Aviation, of the Police Department and of the Fire Department who do not elect to participate in such pension system, shall be entitled to the pensions, retirement benefits, other benefits or allowances for themselves, their widows or dependents, under the laws or ordinances in force immediately prior to the adoption of such ordinance; (2)*