

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Sections 140, 141, and 142 of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1965 Supplement), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments," subtitle "Department of Legislative Reference," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:*

140.

**[The]** *There shall be a State Department of Legislative Reference (elsewhere in this subtitle sometimes referred to as the Department of Legislative Reference or the Department), which [shall be] is assigned to the Legislative Department.*

141.

**[The Director of the Department of Legislative Reference, in his capacity as executive officer of that Department and in his capacity as secretary and director of research of the Legislative Council, shall be deemed an appointed official within the meaning of Section 11 of Article 73B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and any amendments thereto, and shall be treated as such for all purposes of said Article 73B.]**

*(a) The head of the State Department of Legislative Reference shall be the State Board of Legislative Reference, with five members, as follows: the President of the Senate of Maryland, the Speaker of the House of Delegates of Maryland, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, the President of the Johns Hopkins University, and the Dean of the Law School of the University of Maryland. The members of the Board shall serve without compensation.*

*(b) The Board shall appoint a Director to conduct the affairs of the Department. The Director shall hold office during good behavior and shall be subject to removal by the Board, or by a majority of the Board, for incompetence or neglect of duty; but before any Director may be removed from office he shall be given a copy of the charges made against him and an opportunity of being publicly heard in person or by counsel in his own defense, upon not less than ten days' notice.*

142.

**[In addition to the duties to be performed by the Department of Legislative Reference, as created by Chapter No. 565 of the Acts of 1906 (Baltimore City Charter 1949, Sections 140-141) of the General Assembly of Maryland, it shall be] It is the duty of the executive officer of the Department of Legislative Reference to investigate and report upon the laws of this and other states relating to any subject upon which he may be requested so to report by the Governor of Maryland, and any committee or member of the General Assembly, or the head of any State department; to accumulate all data obtainable in relation to the practical operation and effect of such laws; to investigate and collect all available information relating to any matter which is the subject of proposed legislation by the General Assembly; to examine the acts and records of any state and report the results thereof to the Governor, any committee of the General Assembly, or the head of any State department requesting**