

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Sections 47-53 be and they are hereby added to Article 73B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Pensions," to be under a new subtitle, "Baltimore City Police Department Death Relief Fund" to follow immediately after Section 46, and to read as follows:*

*47. Establishment of Fund.*

*There is hereby established, as an instrumentality of the State of Maryland, the Baltimore City Police Department Death Relief Fund, which shall be the successor of the Relief Fund heretofore administered by the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City.*

*48. Purpose of Fund.*

*The Baltimore City Police Department Death Relief Fund shall pay special death benefits, as hereinafter provided, on account of the death of Baltimore City police officers or civilian employees of the Baltimore City Police Department whose death is proximately caused by injuries sustained or by harm inflicted upon the body in the course of the performance of their duty, and also to provide for the payment of death benefits for active police officers and civilian employees of the Department whose death is not proximately caused by injuries or by harm inflicted upon the body in the course of their performance of duties.*

*49. Benefits.*

*(a) In General. The amount of benefit payable on account of the death of an officer or a civilian employee whose death is proximately caused by injuries sustained or by harm inflicted upon the body in the course of the performance of their duty shall be \$5,000.00 or such greater amount as may be prospectively and uniformly established by resolution adopted by the Board and approved by majority vote of the Relief Fund Committee; and the amount of benefit payable on account of the death of an officer or a civilian employee whose death is not proximately caused by injuries sustained or by harm inflicted upon the body in the course of the performance of their duty shall be \$500.00 or such greater amount as may be prospectively and uniformly established by resolution adopted by the Board and approved by majority vote of the Relief Fund Committee. The benefits under this subtitle shall be in addition to all other benefits provided by law or by voluntary action of any person or persons.*

*(b) Eligible Beneficiaries. The said benefit shall be paid only to the following, and in the following order: to the decedent's widow or widower, if any, and if there is no widow or widower, to the decedent's minor children, if any, in equal shares; and if there is no widow or widower or minor children, to decedent's dependent parents, if any, in equal shares; and if there is no widow, widower, minor children, or dependent parents, then to any other dependents of the decedent (and in such amounts up to the maximum benefit, and in such proportions) as the trustees in their discretion determine. Payments due a minor shall be made to the minor's legal guardian, if any, in this state, and if none, to such person or persons on behalf of the minor at such times and amounts, and subject to such con-*