

*tional Services.* The term of office of the members first taking office shall expire as designated by the Governor at the time of appointment, one at the end of one year, one at the end of two years, one at the end of three years, two at the end of four years, and two at the end of five years. Each succeeding term shall be for five years, and any member is subject to removal by the *Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services*, with the approval of the Governor at any time for neglect of his duties or for other cause which in the opinion of the [Governor] *Secretary* makes his continued membership unwise in the public interest. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed, shall be appointed for the remainder of such term. Of the members of said Commission there shall at all times be three members who shall be members of paid or volunteer fire companies; three members of the Commission shall be representatives of industry, and one member shall be representative of the general public interest. In addition five of the seven members of the Commission shall represent the following five regions of the State: (1) Western Maryland—the counties of Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick and Carroll; (2) Central Maryland—the counties of Harford, Baltimore, and Howard; (3) Southern Maryland—the counties of Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's; (4) Washington Metropolitan Area—the counties of Montgomery and Prince George's; and (5) Eastern Shore—the counties of Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester. The sixth and seventh members shall be appointed to represent the State at large.

2.

(a) The State Fire Prevention Commission shall select a chairman and vice-chairman from among its members and shall hold regular meetings at least once every two months and special meetings when called by its chairman or the *Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services* or the *Deputy Secretary for Public Safety*. In the absence of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall exercise the powers and duties of chairman.

(b) No business shall be transacted by the State Fire Prevention Commission in the absence of a quorum which shall be four members, one of whom must be the chairman or vice-chairman.

(c) *The exercise or performances of all powers, authority, duties and functions vested in the State Fire Prevention Commission or the State Fire Marshal by the provisions of this Article, shall be subject to the powers and authority of the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services as set forth in Article 41 of this Code or elsewhere in the laws of this State.*

6.

The State Fire Prevention Commission shall transmit annually to the Governor and to the *Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services* by September thirtieth of each year an annual report of its activities.

7.

(a) The office of State Fire Marshal is established as part of the *Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services*. The State