

land citizens; that the ultimate goal of the correctional system is to make the community safer by reducing the incidence of crime; that establishing a system with significantly increased power to reduce recidivism and prevent recruitment into criminal careers will require a sufficient number of qualified staff to perform the many tasks to be done; that recent studies have revealed that greater training preparation for correctional work would be highly desirable; that this need can be substantially met by the creation of educational and training programs for persons who seek careers as correctional, probation and parole officers; that such persons should be required, while serving in a probationary capacity prior to permanent appointment, to receive efficient training provided at facilities approved by a Commission created for such purpose; that by qualifying and becoming proficient in the field of corrections, such persons shall individually and collectively better insure the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of this State.

(b) *Definitions.*—As used in this section:

(1) “Approved correctional training school” shall mean a school approved and authorized by the Correctional Training Commission to offer training programs as prescribed in this section.

(2) “Commission” shall mean the Correctional Training Commission or officers or employees thereof acting on its behalf.

(3) “County” shall mean any county which within its jurisdiction has or shall have a correctional unit as defined in this section.

(4) “Correctional unit” shall mean any governmental organization or activity of the State, any county, or any municipality which has by statute, ordinance, or court order the responsibility for the care, control and supervision of inmates in correctional institutions, for persons declared to be parolees or for persons placed on probation or suspension of sentence. However, the term “correctional unit” shall not include the State Department of Juvenile Services.

(5) “Municipality” shall mean any incorporated city of any class which, within its jurisdiction, has or shall have a correctional unit as defined in this section.

(6) “Permanent appointment” shall mean an appointment having permanent status as a correctional, parole, or probation officer in a correctional unit as defined in this section.

(7) “Correctional officer” shall mean a member of a correctional unit, as defined in this section, who is charged with and actually performs those duties that relate to the investigation, care, custody, control or supervision of: persons confined to places of incarceration or detention, or persons under parole supervision, or persons placed on probation.

The term “Correctional officer” shall not include any person serving as such solely by virtue of his occupying any other office or position, nor shall such term include the head or deputy head of any correctional unit, any sheriff, warden, superintendent or any person having any equivalent title who is appointed or employed by a government to exercise equivalent supervisory authority.

(c) There is hereby established in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services of the State of Maryland, a Cor-