

Department of Agriculture," to follow immediately after Section 429 of said Article and title, and to read as follows:

## 41.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

430. *Department created; Secretary of Agriculture; Deputy; Assistants, Assistants, Consultants and Employees.*

(a) *The Department of Agriculture is created as a principal department of the State Government. The head of the Department shall be the Secretary of Agriculture, who shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate.*

(b) *The Secretary shall receive such salary as is provided in the State budget. He shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall be directly responsible to the Governor. The Secretary shall counsel and advise the Governor on all matters assigned to the Department of Agriculture and shall be responsible for carrying out the Governor's policies with respect to such matters.*

(c) *The Secretary shall be responsible for the operation of the Department of Agriculture and shall establish guidelines and procedures to promote the orderly and efficient administration thereof. He may establish areas of responsibility within the Department and may organize or abolish such areas of responsibility as necessary to fulfill the duties assigned to him.*

(d) *The Secretary shall appoint, with the approval of the Governor, a deputy secretary who shall have such duties as are provided by law or delegated by the Secretary. The deputy secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary and shall receive such compensation as is provided in the State budget. The Secretary shall also have attached to the Department such assistants, professional consultants and employees as are provided for in the State budget. Assistants in charge of areas of responsibility and professional consultants shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. All other employees of the Department, unless otherwise provided by law, shall be appointed and removed by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland.*

431. *Agencies included within the Department.*

*The following offices, boards, commissions, departments and agencies shall be included within the Department of Agriculture:*

- (1) *The Inspector of Tobacco;*
- (2) *The Tobacco Authority of the State of Maryland;*
- (3) *The Maryland State Fair Board;*
- (4) *The Maryland State Apple Commission;*
- (5) *The State Superintendent of Weights and Measures;*
- (6) *The State Chemist;*
- (7) *The State Veterinarian AND THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS;*
- (8) *The Wholesome Poultry Advisory Council of Maryland;*
- (9) *The Wholesome Meat Advisory Council of Maryland;*
- (10) *The State Soil Conservation Committee;*