defined in the Personnel Regulations shall be eligible for membership. A part-time employee of a participating agency must meet the same standards. The effective date of coverage of qualified part-time employees shall not be later than October 1, 1972.

SECTION 2. Sections 61(g), title "Appointive Officials," 61(j), title "Membership Groups and Eligibility," and 61(k), title "Election of Membership Groups," are hereby amended as follows:

- Appcintive officials. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this article, membership in the retirement system will be optional for any class of County officials appointed for a fixed term by the County Council to any board specifically provided Charter of Montgomery County, in the and without the need to meet entrance Maryland, membership requirements that may be specified herein provided, that such appointive official elects to become a member of this system within thirty (30) days after taking office or within thirty (30) days after enactment of this article. Membership of appointive officials is limited to any such officials appointed on or before October 1, 1971. Any such appointive official appointed before October 1, 1971 who becomes a member of the retirement system is eligible to retain his membership therein as long as it is maintained on a continuous basis.
- (j) Membership Groups and Eligibility. Group B: Any correctional officer, fire prevention inspector and deputy sheriff, appointed or promoted to such position on or before October 1, 1971, irrespective of age, and if appointed to such position thereafter, before he attains the age of forty (40) years. Each police officer, fire fighter, rescue squadsman or public safety cadet appointed on or after August 15, 1965 must become a Group E member effective as of July 1, 1970. Any correctional officer, fire prevention officer or deputy sheriff who is a Group A member as of October 1, 1972 may elect to retain his membership therein.
- (j) Membership Groups and Eligibility. Group E: The Director of the Council Staff, the County Attorney, and each head of a principal department, office or agency of the County Government only, appointed or promoted to, or having held such position