

EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS PURSUANT TO THE POLICY ESTABLISHED BY PARAGRAPH (B) (1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE, ON A PRO RATA BASIS, ALL BENEFITS NORMALLY AVAILABLE TO FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF ALL EXECUTIVE AGENCIES IN SIMILAR POSITION, GRADE, OR LENGTH OF SERVICE.

(J) NO EXECUTIVE AGENCY SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING THAT AGENCY'S PERSONNEL CEILING REQUIREMENT, COUNT ANY EMPLOYEE EMPLOYED ON A FLEXIBLE HOURS EMPLOYMENT BASIS OTHER THAN ON A PRO RATA BASIS ACCORDING TO THE PERCENTAGE OF HOURS SUCH EMPLOYEE WORKS COMPARED TO THE STANDARD STATE WORKWEEK ESTABLISHED FOR THE AGENCY OR ANY APPROPRIATE AGENCY DIVISION.

(K) THE SECRETARY MAY EXTEND THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION TO ANY STATE AGENCY NOT WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

(L) THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 18 OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL APPLY TO FLEXIBLE HOURS EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS CREATED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(M) EACH PART-TIME EMPLOYEE OF AN EXECUTIVE AGENCY, AND OTHER AGENCIES COVERED UNDER SUBSECTION (K) ABOVE WHO, AS OF JULY 1, 1975 HAS CONTINUED SATISFACTORY SERVICE FOR A PERIOD EQUIVALENT TO THAT REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A PROBATIONARY PERIOD IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE UNDER THIS ARTICLE WITHOUT EXAMINATION OR FURTHER QUALIFYING REQUIREMENT.

(N) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO AUTHORIZE THE HIRING OF PART-TIME EMPLOYEES EXCEPT TO DO WORK WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE TO BE PERFORMED PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE LAW BY FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OR BY OTHER PART-TIME EMPLOYEES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 3 of Article 64A - Merit System, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 64A - Merit System

3.

The following positions shall not be included in the classified service, namely: those held by officers elected by popular vote and officers whose appointment and election is provided by the Constitution, including deputy clerks provided for by the Constitution, Article 4, §§ 26 and 37; officers and employees of the General