

hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 38A - Fires and Investigations

1.

(a) There is hereby created a State Fire Prevention Commission, which shall consist of seven persons, qualified by experience and training to deal with the matters which are the responsibilities of the Commission, appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, with the approval of the Governor. The Commission shall be part of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional 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 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.

(b) The members of the State Fire Prevention Commission shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD TRAVEL REGULATIONS, for their [actual and] necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.