

COUNTY LOCAL LAWS

disability and circumstances of such disability must be clearly shown and documented.

(F) WITNESS SERVICE IN A PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY IN HEARINGS BEFORE THE RETIREMENT HEARING BOARD. PROFESSIONAL WITNESSES REQUESTED OR REQUIRED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE BY THE RETIREMENT HEARING BOARD WILL BE REIMBURSED ON THE USUAL FEE FOR SERVICE BASIS IN AN AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED BY THE RETIREMENT HEARING BOARD. SUCH FEES SHALL BE CHARGEABLE TO THE PERSONNEL OFFICE BUDGET.

(G) APPEALS TO THE COUNTY PERSONNEL BOARD. A MEMBER WHO DISAGREES WITH THE RETIREMENT HEARING BOARD'S DECISION SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT OF APPEAL TO THE COUNTY PERSONNEL BOARD WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS OF RECEIPT OF WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF THE DECISION. THE COUNTY PERSONNEL BOARD WILL REVIEW THE APPEAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN THE PERSONNEL REGULATIONS.

(H) JUDICIAL APPEAL. A FINAL DECISION RENDERED BY THE COUNTY PERSONNEL BOARD ON AN APPEAL MAY BE APPEALED TO ANY COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND RULES OF PROCEDURE, CHAPTER 1100, SUBTITLE B.

(I) INTERIM PAYMENT OF BENEFITS PENDING DECISION ON APPEAL. THE ENTERING OF AN APPEAL SHALL NOT PRECLUDE THE PAYMENT OF DISABILITY BENEFITS DETERMINED BY THE RETIREMENT HEARING BOARD NOR SHALL THE RECEIPT OF SUCH PAYMENTS PREJUDICE THE APPEAL IN ANY WAY.

SECTION XVI. Section 58(b), title "Procedure for obtaining official interpretation" is hereby amended as follows:

(b) Procedure for obtaining official interpretation. Any person interested in obtaining an official interpretation of any part of this Article may do so by formal or informal inquiry.

(1) Informal inquiry. Informal inquiry may be made through the Personnel Director.

(2) Formal inquiry. Formal inquiry must be submitted to the County Personnel Board in writing.

SECTION XVII. Effective date.

This Act shall take effect on the 76th day following its enactment. Any increases in benefits as the result of these amendments shall become effective as of the first day of the month following the effective date of