

(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND PAROLE COMMISSION IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(B) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF SEVEN MEMBERS. THE SECRETARY, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNOR AND ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE, SHALL APPOINT THE MEMBERS WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICAL AFFILIATION. EACH MEMBER SHALL BE A RESIDENT OF THE STATE AND SHALL HAVE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE IN LAW, SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY, EDUCATION, SOCIAL WORK, OR CRIMINOLOGY.

(C) (1) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION SHALL SERVE A SIX-YEAR TERM AND UNTIL HIS SUCCESSOR QUALIFIES. HOWEVER, MEMBERS CURRENTLY ON THE BOARD OF PAROLE SHALL BE APPOINTED TO THE COMMISSION AND SERVE A TERM EQUAL TO THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM TO WHICH HE HAD BEEN APPOINTED. A MEMBER APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY IN AN UNEXPIRED TERM SERVES ONLY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM.

(2) THE SECRETARY, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNOR, MAY REMOVE A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION FOR DISABILITY, NEGLECT OF DUTY, OR MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE AFTER GIVING HIM WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM AND HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHARGES.

(3) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVOTE HIS FULL TIME TO THE DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION AND MAY NOT HAVE ANY OTHER EMPLOYMENT THAT CONFLICTS WITH DEVOTION OF HIS FULL TIME.

(D) THE SECRETARY, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNOR, SHALL DESIGNATE A CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS.

(E) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION SHALL RECEIVE THE ANNUAL SALARY AND THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE ACTUAL PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SALARY OF COMMISSION MEMBERS, DURING THEIR TERMS, IN THE SAME PROPORTION AS ANY AVERAGE SALARY INCREASE AWARDED TO STATE EMPLOYEES GENERALLY.

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(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL APPOINT THE STAFF NECESSARY TO PERFORM ITS DUTIES. HOWEVER, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STAFF MAY NOT DUPLICATE OR CONFLICT WITH THE FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES OF THE DIVISION OF PAROLE AND PROBATION. THE STAFF SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE MERIT SYSTEM LAW.

(B) (1) THE SECRETARY MAY APPOINT THE HEARING EXAMINERS NECESSARY TO CONDUCT PAROLE RELEASE HEARINGS UNDER §110 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.