

(1975 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Sections 5, 5A, 15, 16, and 20 of Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and they are hereby repealed:

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law

5.

[The Commission shall consist of three commissioners, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Each commissioner must be at least 25 years of age, must be a registered voter resident in Maryland when he is appointed and when he qualifies, and must have been a resident of Maryland for at least five years next preceding his appointment. The Governor shall designate one of the commissioners as chairman, and the chairman shall serve in that capacity until expiration of his term as commissioner. Commissioners shall be eligible for reappointment.]

5A.

[The Governor may appoint with the advice and consent of the Senate a substitute commissioner, who shall serve for a term of six years. The qualifications set forth in § 5 hereof and the provisions for tenure and removal set forth in § 6 and § 8 hereof shall apply to the substitute commissioner, and his compensation shall be as provided in the annual budget. Upon assignment by the chairman of the Commission, the substitute commissioner is authorized to sit in the absence of a regular commissioner, and shall, in such instances, have the authority of a regular commissioner. He shall also be eligible for designation by the Governor as the State's representative on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission.]

15.

[The people's counsel shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) He shall appear before the Commission, and the courts on behalf of the interests of the public in general in any matter or proceeding, of which the Commission has original jurisdiction and in which he may deem the public interest to be involved, including but not limited to proceedings with regard to the rates, service, or practices of any public service company or any violation of the provisions of this article. He shall have, in such appearance, all the rights of counsel for a party in interest, including but not limited to the right to present his case, to cross examine, to object,