

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1977.

Approved May 17, 1977.

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CHAPTER 635

(Senate Bill 641)

AN ACT concerning

Staff of Public Service Commission

FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing~~ requiring the Public Service Commission to hire certain personnel ~~on a permanent basis or on a case-by-case basis, as needed;~~ and providing that counsel to the Commission staff are appointed by ~~and serve at the pleasure of~~ the Commission.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law  
Section 16(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1975 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 16(a) of Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law

16.

(a) The annual budget shall provide sufficient funds for the Commission to hire, develop, and organize a staff to perform its functions under this Article, including but not limited to the analysis of all data submitted to the Commission and the preparation of a staff position in matters pending before the Commission. [The staff shall include but not be limited to] THE COMMISSION ~~MAY EITHER HIRE FULL-TIME PERMANENT EMPLOYEES OR INDEPENDENT EXPERTS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, AS NEEDED, IN SUCH POSITIONS AS SHALL HIRE~~ economists; cost of capital experts; rate design experts; accountants; engineers; transportation specialists; lawyers; and any other experts deemed necessary to meet the needs of the Commission; OR, AS REQUIRED, RETAIN SUCH PERSONS ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. The Commission may, from time to time, retain additional experts as required for a