

THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT IS THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

(B) RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY TO GOVERNOR; ADMINISTRATION OF DEPARTMENT; SALARY.

(1) THE SECRETARY SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR AND IS RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNOR. THE SECRETARY SHALL COUNSEL AND ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON ALL MATTERS ASSIGNED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CARRYING OUT THE GOVERNOR'S POLICIES ON THESE MATTERS.

(2) THE SECRETARY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES TO PROMOTE THE ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT. HE MAY ESTABLISH, REORGANIZE, OR ABOLISH AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE DEPARTMENT AS NECESSARY TO FULFILL EFFECTIVELY THE DUTIES ASSIGNED TO HIM. HE MAY DESIGNATE STAFF ASSISTANTS TO BE IN CHARGE OF THE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY HE ESTABLISHES.

(3) THE SECRETARY IS ENTITLED TO THE SALARY PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

(C) DEPUTY SECRETARY; APPOINTMENT; REMOVAL; SALARY.

(1) WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNOR, THE SECRETARY SHALL APPOINT A DEPUTY SECRETARY WHO HAS THE DUTIES PROVIDED BY LAW OR DELEGATED BY THE SECRETARY.

(2) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY IS THE ACTING SECRETARY DURING PERIODS WHEN THE SECRETARY IS ABSENT OR DISABLED.

(3) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE SECRETARY AND IS ENTITLED TO THE SALARY PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

(D) APPOINTMENT, REMOVAL, AND SALARY OF ASSISTANTS, CONSULTANTS, AND OTHER PERSONNEL.

THE SECRETARY MAY HAVE IN THE DEPARTMENT THE STAFF ASSISTANTS, PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS, AND EMPLOYEES PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET. EACH STAFF ASSISTANT IN CHARGE OF AN AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND EACH PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT SHALL BE APPOINTED BY AND SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE SECRETARY. UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, THE SECRETARY SHALL APPOINT AND REMOVE ALL OTHER PERSONNEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE MERIT SYSTEM LAW. THE SECRETARY MAY DELEGATE HIS AUTHORITY TO APPOINT AND REMOVE PERSONNEL OF ANY UNIT TO THE HEAD OF THAT UNIT.

(E) REMOVAL OF APPOINTEE APPROVED BY GOVERNOR.