

limitations is necessary and a matter of emergency. This limitation with respect to the agency's budget is applicable to every agency in the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government, EXCEPT BICOUNTY COMMISSIONS APPOINTED BY LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES WHO REVIEW THE COMMISSIONS' BUDGETS, notwithstanding any exemptions from the provisions of this subtitle contained in § 244 (a) of this subtitle.

246.

Each agency, EXCEPT BICOUNTY COMMISSIONS APPOINTED BY LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES, shall comply with the provisions of § 9 of this article and the State Documents Law.

A rule is effective as provided in the State Documents Law, unless otherwise provided by law.

248.

Any interested person may petition an agency requesting the promulgation, amendment, or repeal of any rule. Each agency shall prescribe by rule the form for such petitions and the procedure for their submission, consideration, and disposition. WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER SUBMISSION OF A PETITION, THE AGENCY SHALL EITHER DENY THE PETITION IN WRITING (STATING THE REASONS FOR THE DENIAL) OR INITIATE RULEMAKING PROCEEDINGS.

250.

On petition of any interested person [or corporation], [any] THE agency may issue a declaratory ruling with respect to the applicability [to any person, corporation, property or state of facts] of any rule, ORDER, or statute enforceable by it TO ANY PERSON, PROPERTY, OR STATEMENT OF FACTS. IF ISSUED [A] A declaratory ruling[, if issued after argument and stated to be binding,] is binding between the agency and the petitioner on the state of facts alleged[, unless it is altered or set aside by a court]. Such a ruling is subject to review in the circuit court of the county or the Baltimore City Court, as the case may be, in the manner hereinafter provided for the review of decisions in contested cases. Each agency shall prescribe by rule the form for such petitions and the procedure for their submission, consideration, and disposition.

250A.

(A) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT CONCERNING CONTESTED CASES APPLY WHEN THE GRANT, DENIAL, OR RENEWAL OF A LICENSE IS REQUIRED BY LAW OR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO BE PRECEDED BY NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING.

(B) WHEN A LICENSEE HAS MADE TIMELY AND SUFFICIENT APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF A LICENSE, THE EXISTING LICENSE MAY NOT EXPIRE UNTIL THE AGENCY HAS TAKEN FINAL ACTION ON THE APPLICATION AND THE TIME FOR SEEKING JUDICIAL