

Article 73B - Pensions

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(19)--{(a)--Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other law, a Governor who has served at least one full term of office or more prior to January 17, 1979, may retire immediately upon leaving office. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, he shall receive an annual retirement allowance or pension of \$12,500 under this subsection which shall be adjusted from year to year for cost of living changes in accordance with the procedure set forth in § 11A of this article. This retirement allowance or pension shall be suspended and not paid during any period when the former Governor is employed by any agency of the State of Maryland. Following his death, his surviving spouse shall receive an allowance which is equal to one-half the retirement allowance which the former Governor would have been entitled to receive from time to time under this subsection.

(b)--Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other law, retirement allowances and benefits for persons serving in the office of Governor after January 17, 1979, and their spouses shall be payable in accordance with this subsection. A person serving in the office of Governor after January 17, 1979, shall be eligible to receive a retirement allowance equal to one-third the annual salary received during his last term of office, provided that the Governor has served at least one full term and has attained age 55. The retirement allowance so determined shall continue for the life of the retiree. This retirement allowance or pension shall be suspended and not paid during any period when the former governor is employed by any agency of the State of Maryland. A Governor leaving office at any time because of physical or mental disability, pursuant to the provisions of Constitution Article II, Section 6(e), including one who became disabled before having served at least one term, shall begin receiving a retirement allowance immediately upon leaving office equal to the amount he would have received had he served a full term and attained age 55. However, when such physical or mental disability no longer exists and the retiree has not yet attained age 55, this disability retirement allowance shall terminate. When such retiree attains age 55, he shall receive the normal retirement allowance provided he is otherwise qualified. Upon the death of a Governor at any time after leaving office, the surviving spouse, regardless of age, shall receive a benefit for the remainder of the spouse's life equal to one-half the benefit which the retired Governor was receiving or would have been entitled to receive. Upon the death of a Governor while in office, the surviving spouse, regardless of the age of the Governor or the spouse, shall receive for the remainder of the spouse's life one-half the benefit which the Governor would have been entitled to receive had he completed one term and attained age 55.