persons on a case by case basis. The Commission may, from time to time, retain additional experts as required for a particular matter. Those lawyers who represent the Commission staff in proceedings before the Commission shall be organized and operate independently of the office of general counsel and shall be appointed by the Commission.

62.

(b) In all matters before the Commission, unless the Commission, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF ANY STAFF RECOMMENDATION AS TO THE EXTENT OF STAFF PARTICIPATION, determines the public interest would not be served thereby, the staff of the Commission shall ANALYZE ALL DATA SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION, PREPARE A STAFF POSITION BASED ON THAT ANALYSIS, AND make an evidentiary presentation [reflecting] SETTING analysis of the issues and its staff's recommendations. In making its analysis and recommendations, the staff shall be governed by the considerations set forth in § 56. To discharge this responsibility it shall BE A PARTY AND have all rights of a party to the proceeding, including but not limited to those specified in § 82, and, to the extent it deems necessary in a particular case, it shall present direct and redirect cases of its own, cross-examine, submit briefs, and engage in oral argument to insure that the Commission has a complete record on all relevant issues.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1980.

Approved May 27, 1980.

CHAPTER 803

(House Bill 1752)

AN ACT concerning

Public Service Commission - Preferences and Discrimination

FOR the purpose of repealing certain exceptions to the Public Service Commission prohibition on preferences or discrimination in respect to services rendered or commodities furnished.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law Section 26(b) Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1979 Supplement)