

and shall participate in federal programs for [civil defense and disaster preparedness] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE. Each local organization for [civil defense and disaster preparedness] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE shall have a director OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE who shall be appointed by the Governor, upon the recommendation of the mayor, the executive, or governing body of the RESPECTIVE political SUBDIVISION. [subdivisions, and who] EACH DIRECTOR OF A LOCAL ORGANIZATION shall have direct responsibility for the organization, administration and operation of [such] THE RESPECTIVE local organization for [civil defense and disaster preparedness] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE. EACH LOCAL DIRECTOR SHALL BE subject to the direction and control of the mayor, executive, or governing body OF THE RESPECTIVE SUBDIVISION, under general power of the Governor [and Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services]. The local organization shall include such positions and program as may be recommended from time to time by the State [Civil Defense and Disaster Preparedness] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE Agency to meet federal and State standards, subject to the budgets of the local jurisdictions.

(b) In any county, or Baltimore City, in which there is a merit system or classified service for the general employees of that political subdivision, the employees and officers of the local organization for [civil defense] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE (except the director) shall be included in and subject to all rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of that system or service.

(c) If the county or Baltimore City does not have such a merit system or classified service, the county commissioners or county council, or the board of estimates of Baltimore City, may include by regulation the employees and officers of the local organization for [civil defense] EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL DEFENSE (except the director) in the classified service of the State. During the effective period of any such regulation, the said employees and officers shall be subject to certain of the rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of Article 64A of the Annotated Code, title "Merit System," with the particular board of county commissioners or county council, or the mayor of Baltimore City, as the appointing officer thereunder; but the provisions of this sentence shall not be construed or applied to remove from the particular board of county commissioners or county council or from the mayor and city council of Baltimore power to establish and regulate the compensation, vacation allowance, and sick leave of all such employees and officers in the respective political subdivisions.

8.

The Director, with the approval of the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and in collaboration with other public and private agencies within