

The Division of Labor and Industry is established and continued as the same Department of Labor and Industry hitherto existing. The Division of Labor and Industry shall be part of the Department of Licensing and Regulation. The Division of Labor and Industry shall have the powers, duties, responsibilities and functions provided in the laws of this State for the Department of Labor and Industry. All references in this Code, in any other laws of this State, or in ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, legal actions, directives or documents to the Department of Labor and Industry shall be deemed to mean the Division of Labor and Industry. [From and after July 1, 1970 all] THE rights, powers, duties, obligations and functions [heretofore conferred upon or exercised by the Department of Labor and Industry shall be transferred to and be] exercised by the Division of Labor and Industry[,] SHALL BE subject to the authority of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation as set forth in Article 41 of this Code, or elsewhere in the laws of this State.

The Division of Labor and Industry is hereby created. The head of said Division shall be known as the Commissioner of Labor and Industry. The Commissioner shall be appointed by the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation with the approval of the Governor, and shall hold office ON A FULL-TIME BASIS at the pleasure of the Secretary. [The Commissioner holding office on July 1, 1970, shall continue to hold office at the pleasure of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation.] The Commissioner shall receive a salary as provided in the budget. The said Commissioner shall be allowed actual and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties.

The Division shall have a deputy commissioner, who shall [receive such salary as may be set by the Standard Salary Board, or its successor, and who shall have all rights and privileges under the State Merit System Law and the State Employees' Retirement System] BE APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF LICENSING AND REGULATION AND SHALL HOLD OFFICE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COMMISSIONER. The deputy commissioner holding office on July 1, [1970] 1983, shall continue to hold office subject to the provisions of Article 64A of this Code.

[At any time hereafter the office of deputy commissioner shall become vacant the State Commissioner of Personnel or his successor shall, as soon as practical, conduct a competitive examination in accordance with the State Merit System Law.] The deputy commissioner, in the event of the absence, death, resignation, disability, or disqualification of the Commissioner, or in case the office of the Commissioner shall for any cause become vacant, shall have and exercise all the powers and duties vested by law in the Commissioner.

The Commissioner is authorized and empowered to appoint or employ such deputies, inspectors, assistants and employees of every kind as may be necessary for the performance of the duties