

unbecoming his office. The Commission may recommend to the Secretary the removal of the Fire Marshal for cause. Prior to removal, he shall be given timely notice by the Secretary with a statement of the charges against him with an opportunity in person or by counsel for a public hearing thereon. The State Fire Marshal shall receive the salary provided in the State budget. The State Fire Marshal shall be appointed in accordance with the following qualifications: (1) graduation from an accredited college or university, with specialized study in either the field of fire protection or engineering, and (2) five years of recent progressively responsible experience in fire prevention inspection, fire investigation, fire safety promotion, fire protection engineering, teaching fire safety engineering, or fire fighting, three years of which must have been at the administrative level.

(b) The State Fire Marshal, by delegation of authority vested in the State Fire Prevention Commission and within policy established by the State Fire Prevention Commission has all responsibility for the implementation of fire safety programs in the State designated to minimize fire hazards and disasters and loss of life and property from these causes. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the establishment and enforcement of fire safety practices throughout the State, preventive inspection and correction activities, coordination of fire safety programs with volunteer and paid fire companies, and other State agencies and political subdivisions exercising enforcement aspects, and critical analysis and evaluation of Maryland fire loss statistics for determination of problems and solutions.

(c) A fire marshal legally designated by a county or municipal corporation of the State shall serve as deputy State fire marshal, without compensation, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this article, including issuance of orders, in that county or municipal corporation. Where there is no legally designated fire marshal in a county or municipal corporation, the State Fire Marshal shall carry out the provisions of this article therein.

(d) The State Fire Marshal's office shall have such assistants, consultants, and employees as may be provided for in the budget from time to time.

(E) THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION MAY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ON THE DAILY ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUDGET AND PERSONNEL MATTERS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1983.

Approved May 31, 1983.