

(f) The Governor may remove a commissioner for incompetence or misconduct in accordance with § 3-307 of the State Government Article.

2-103.

(a) [With the advice and consent of the Senate, the Governor shall appoint] FROM AMONG THE COMMISSIONERS, THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT a Chairman.

(b) (1) The term of the Chairman is 5 years and begins on [July 1] APRIL 10.

(2) At the end of a term, the Chairman continues to serve until a successor qualifies.

(3) A Chairman who is [appointed] ELECTED after a term has begun serves for the rest of the term and until a successor qualifies.

2-201.1.

~~THE OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL IS A UNIT OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.~~

2-202.

(a) ~~[With the advice and consent of the Senate, the Governor] THE ATTORNEY GENERAL shall appoint the People's Counsel.~~

(b) ~~The People's Counsel serves at the pleasure of the [Governor] ATTORNEY GENERAL.~~

(c) ~~The People's Counsel shall have been admitted to practice law in the State.~~

(d) ~~Before taking office, the People's Counsel shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.~~

(e) ~~The People's Counsel shall devote full time to the duties of office.~~

(f) ~~The People's Counsel is entitled to a salary of at least \$35,000 a year as provided in the State budget.~~

2-204.

(a) (1) ~~The Office of People's Counsel shall evaluate each matter pending before the Commission to determine if the interests of residential and noncommercial users are affected.~~

(2) ~~If the Office of People's Counsel considers the interest of residential and noncommercial users to be affected, the Office of People's Counsel shall appear before the Commission and courts on behalf of residential and noncommercial users in each matter or proceeding over which the Commission has original jurisdiction, including a proceeding on the rates, service, or practices of a public service company or on a violation of this article.~~

(3) ~~As the Office of People's Counsel considers necessary, the Office of People's Counsel shall conduct investigations and request the Commission to initiate proceedings to protect the interests of residential and noncommercial users.~~