

~~BY adding to~~

~~Article - Election Law~~

~~Section 2-101.1, 2-102, and 2-107~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2003 Volume and 2004 Supplement)~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Election Law

~~Title 2. [Powers and Duties of the State] STATE ELECTIONS OFFICE, STATE ELECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, and Local Boards OF ELECTION.~~

~~Subtitle 1. [State Board] STATE ELECTIONS OFFICE AND STATE ELECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.~~

2-101.

(a) There is a State ~~[Board]~~ OFFICE of Elections ~~[consisting of five members].~~

(b) The State ~~[Board]~~ OFFICE shall ~~[maintain its principal office]~~ ~~BE LOCATED~~ in Annapolis and have staff, subject to the State Personnel and Pensions Article, as provided in the State budget.

~~[(c) (1) Each member of the State Board shall:~~

~~(1) (I) subject to subsection (g)(2) of this section, be appointed by the Governor, GOVERNOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, with the advice and consent of the Senate of Maryland;~~

~~(2) (II) be a registered voter in the State for the 5 years immediately preceding the appointment;~~

~~(3) (III) subject to subsection (f)(3) of this section, be eligible for reappointment;~~

~~(4) (IV) conform to the restrictions specified under § 2-301 of this title; and~~

~~(5) (V) be subject to removal by the Governor for incompetence, misconduct, or other good cause, upon written charges filed by the Governor with the State Board and after having been afforded notice and ample opportunity to be heard.~~

(2) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT AS A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME IS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR BY THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRINCIPAL POLITICAL PARTY ENTITLED TO THE APPOINTMENT.