

250.

(a) There is created the Maryland Home-Improvement Commission, which shall be a part of the Department of Licensing and Regulation, consisting of [five] 7 members.

(b) Each commissioner shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation, for a term of four years, except that when a vacancy occurs before the expiration of a term, the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation, shall appoint the successor to serve for the remainder of the term. One of the commissioners shall be designated chairman by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation.

(c) The Governor, with the advice of the Secretary of Licensing and Regulation, shall appoint as commissioners, [no less than two] 3 persons who are qualified by experience in at least some phase of the home-improvement industry, and no less than one person who is qualified by experience in the business of banking or finance, AND 3 CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVES. Each commissioner shall have been a citizen and resident of this State for not less than five years preceding his appointment.

253.

(e) The commissioners shall meet no less than once a month for the transaction of any and all business which may come before it. A quorum consists of [three] 4 members and the concurrence of [three] 4 shall be required for action.

257.

(c) An UNTIL JUNE 30, 1987 1988, AN applicant for a contractor's license shall ~~file~~ with the Commission a cash, surety, or property bond or an irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of \$5,000 or evidence of financial responsibility satisfactory to the Commission for the benefit of any person who is damaged because of the breach of the home improvement contract. The bond may not be construed to require any surety to be responsible for the completion of a home improvement contract entered into by the principal on the bond. The liability of the surety under any bond may not exceed in the aggregate the amount of the bond, regardless of the number or amount of claims filed, and if the latter should exceed the amount, the surety shall pay the \$5,000 to the Home Improvement Commission for distribution to claimants and shall be relieved of all liability under its bond. Claims shall be paid in the order of filing. -|- IN ADDITION, AN APPLICANT SHALL MAKE, WITH THE APPLICATION, PAYMENT TO THE FUND AS REQUIRED UNDER § 257C(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

257A.