

and "[u]sing the same procedure", for clarity. Although the Senate and the House could concur by identical simple resolutions, that procedure seems needlessly cumbersome. Both the Director of the Department of Fiscal Services and the Director of the Department of Legislative Reference believe that a joint resolution would be used under subsection (a)(3) of this section, although the Directors indicate that, in practice, only subsection (b) of this section is used.

In subsection (b) of this section, the power to "authorize an amendment of a schedule for ... the Legislative Branch" is substituted for the former power to "exercise the powers granted ... by" former Art. 15A, § 8(b) through (c-1)(3), for clarity.

Also in subsection (b) of this section, the former reference "adjourned sine die" is deleted as surplusage.

The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code notes, for consideration by the General Assembly, that it is unclear whether the requirement of joint action by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates, under former Art. 15A, § 8(c-1)(4) -- and the revision in subsection (b) of this section -- is intended to apply if the amendment would affect only the schedule of the Senate or of the House.

The Commission also notes that the new language in subsection (d) of this section tries to clarify the form and manner by which a salary increase is effected under this section while retaining the limitations suggested in the former law.

Thus, subsection (d)(1) of this section is limited to salaries for nonclassified positions since, by cross-reference to former Art. 15A, § 20(c), former § 20(d) was limited in scope. Since former § 20(d) also referred only to the "acute emergency provisions of § 8", the general restriction, in former § 8(f), on a salary increase for another type of position seemed inapplicable and is not included in subsection (d) of this section.

However, based on former Art. 15A, § 8(f), subsection (d)(1) of this section clarifies that approval must be in the form of a budget amendment under this section and is limited by the most recently enacted State budget. Although former § 8(f) also referred to "supporting documents", this former reference is unnecessary in the case of nonclassified positions. See § 7-109 of this title.