The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code notes, for the consideration of the General Assembly, that it is unclear whether the notice requirement of former Art. 15A, § 2(a) applied to "every State agency whose expenses are paid out of fees collected". The former law did not seem to require any notice to the Comptroller if a "State agency whose expenses are paid out of fees collected" does not receive an appropriation for operating expenses. Compare this revised section, which continues the ambiguity of the former law on whether officers and units "whose expenses are paid out of fees collected" do receive appropriation, with the provisions of § 6-213 of this article, which requires that all fees collected by a unit of the State government be deposited in the State Treasury. An appropriation to the unit would then be necessary before any funds to its credit could be disbursed from the State Treasury.

7-302. GENERAL REQUIREMENT FOR REVERSION.

EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR, THE UNSPENT BALANCE OF EACH APPROPRIATION THAT WAS MADE FOR THAT FISCAL YEAR TO AN OFFICER OR UNIT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT OR TO AN INSTITUTION REVERTS TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from the second sentence of former Art. 15A, § 2(a), except for the parenthetical clauses in that sentence.

The introductory language of this section, "[e]xcept as otherwise provided by law," is added as a general reference to provisions that exempt certain appropriations or the appropriations of certain units. In light of this addition, the reference to "each appropriation" is substituted for the former, narrower, reference to "such appropriation" -- i.e., "an appropriation for operating expenses". While the former, limited reference distinguished appropriations for capital expenses, the distinction is unnecessary since, under § 7-305 of this subtitle, appropriations for capital expenditures do not revert. However, the substituted language reflects that some appropriations for operating expenses also do not revert.

The substituted language also encompasses "fees" that an officer or unit of the State government collects. See revisor's note to § 7-301 of this subtitle.

The term "General Fund" is substituted for the former reference to the "general treasury", to conform to references elsewhere in this article.