

in the operation of equipment or similar optional activities for which a charge is made by the district, other than demonstration type projects approved by the Committee.

(d) The Committee may cooperate with local governments in providing soil conservation districts with personnel, space, and other items or assistance to aid the district in carrying out the soil and water conservation program authorized under this title. The Committee may accept from local governments, financial or other aid to supplement State funds allocated to provide personnel, space, and other items for soil conservation districts. The Committee may spend public funds of the State, appropriated for administration of this title, to pay the State share of costs of the cooperative program as may be agreed on by the Committee and the county government.

(e) The district clerical and administrative employees supported by State funds on July 1, 1978 upon application by the district shall become eligible for appointment under the State merit system as employees of the State Soil Conservation Committee to be assigned to districts as provided under Article 64A, § 9P. The Committee may employ part-time classified personnel for these positions if full funding is not available from State or local sources, or both.

10-404.

(a) The Commission shall administer all funds levied and collected under this subtitle subject to approval of the Secretary.

(b) The Commission shall plan and conduct campaigns of education, advertising, publicity, sales promotion, and research to increase the demand for, and the consumption of Maryland apples. It may enter contracts, expend money of the Apple Merchandising Fund, and take other actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of this subtitle.

(c) The commission may cooperate with other state, regional, national, agricultural, and horticultural organizations in research, advertising, publicity, education, and other means of promoting the sale and use of apples, and expend money of the Apple Merchandising Fund for these purposes.

(d) The Commission, subject to approval of the Secretary and the provisions of the budget, may appoint a Secretary and any other employee necessary[, at salaries fixed by the Commission]. Every employee shall be covered by a surety bond approved by the Maryland State Employees Surety Bond Committee.

Article - State Finance and Procurement

10-201.

(a) The Board may appoint a full-time secretary.