which meets the standards, rules and regulations prescribed by the [State Board for] MARYLAND Higher Education COMMISSION and is thereby empowered to issue a certificate, diploma or degree pursuant to Title 12 of the Education Article of the Maryland Code. This term shall not mean any institution owned and operated by the State.

## (h) (2) "Hospital" includes:

(i) Nonprofit comprehensive health centers providing out-patient primary health services available to the general public, but does not include any facility as described in this item which is owned and operated by the State, except that with the approval of the Board of Public Works and the Joint Budget and Audit Committee of the General Assembly the term includes medical or health care facilities of the University of Maryland SYSTEM;

## Article 64A - Merit System

38A.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section and notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the Central Payroll Bureau in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury shall handle and provide for the payment of all salaries and wages (including custody and maintenance of all supporting papers and records) for and to all officers and employees of the State or any agency thereof whose salaries or wages are paid from funds appropriated by the General Assembly, including officers or employees of the University of Maryland SYSTEM and the Department of Transportation, and all their offices, branches, and units.

56.

(b) The defense of sovereign immunity may not be available to the State, unless otherwise specifically provided by the laws of Maryland, in any administrative, arbitration, or judicial proceeding held pursuant to this article, to the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Personnel, or the personnel policies, rules, and regulations for classified employees of the University of Maryland SYSTEM involving any type of employee grievance or hearing, including, but not limited to, charges for removal, disciplinary suspensions, involuntary demotions, or reclassifications. The defense of sovereign immunity is not available to the State with regard to a salary award in an employment discrimination case under Section 16 of Article 49B of this Code.

Article 65 - Militia

12A.