

(c) Applications for original appointment as a notary public shall be made on forms prepared by the Secretary of State and shall be sworn to by the applicant, and must bear thereon or be accompanied by the written approval of a senator representing the senatorial district and subdistrict in which the applicant resides. An out-of-state court reporter shall make an application for original appointment as a notary public as described above through a Maryland State Senator. Completed applications shall be filed with the Secretary of State. When the appointment is made by the Governor, the Secretary of State shall so notify the applicant.

[(d) (1) Appointments made and commissions issued following the effective date of the section shall be for a term ending July 1, 1974, and July 1 of each fourth year thereafter. Terms which commenced on or after July 1, 1967, are extended to July 1, 1970.

(2) The term for an out-of-state court reporter notary public is 4 years. Appointments made and commissions issued for out-of-state court reporters following the effective date of this section shall be for a term ending July 1, 1986, and on July 1 of each fourth year thereafter.]

~~{D}-{1}-EXCEPT-AS-PROVIDED-IN-PARAGRAPH-{2}-OF-THIS SUBSECTION, EACH NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSION ISSUED SHALL BE FOR A TERM ENDING ON THE FOURTH BIRTHDAY OF THE NOTARY FOLLOWING THE DATE OF ITS ISSUANCE.~~

~~{2}-FOR-A-COMMISSION-EXPIRING-JULY-1-1990, THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL, UPON APPLICATION, ISSUE A NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSION FOR A TERM ENDING ON THE SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, OR FIFTH BIRTHDAY OF THE NOTARY, FOLLOWING THE ISSUANCE OF THE COMMISSION. IT SHALL BE WITHIN THE DISCRETION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE WHICH COMMISSION TERM A NOTARY IS ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.~~

(D) (1) THE TERM OF A NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSION IS 4 YEARS.

(2) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ADOPT, BY REGULATION, A STAGGERED SYSTEM FOR THE EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSIONS.

(e) Notary public commissions may be renewed from term to term, and the Secretary of State shall issue [notice] AN APPLICATION of renewal to the notary public at or prior to the expiration of the term of the existing commission. UPON RECEIPT OF A SATISFACTORY APPLICATION OF RENEWAL FROM THE NOTARY PUBLIC, THE SECRETARY SHALL ISSUE NOTICE OF RENEWAL TO THE NOTARY PUBLIC. Within thirty (30) days after the issuance by the Secretary of State of notice of appointment or renewal the notary public shall qualify before the appropriate clerk of the court and pay the fees herein prescribed. An out-of-state court reporter commissioned as a notary public shall qualify before the clerk of