

BY repealing

Article 64A - Merit System  
Section 48(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1988 Replacement Volume and 1988 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 64A - Merit System  
Section 48(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1988 Replacement Volume and 1988 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 64A - Merit System

48.

[(a) (1) The Governor shall include a sum of at least one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) in the budget each year as a contribution toward the cost of a program of hospital, medical, and surgical insurance for employees of the several departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, and other agencies of the State government.

(2) The Secretary of Personnel may arrange for a dental plan for State employees choosing to participate that shall be funded by contributions of State employees choosing to participate.]

(A) (1) THE SECRETARY OF PERSONNEL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE EMPLOYEE AND RETIREE BENEFITS PROGRAMS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE RETIREMENT--AND-DEFERRED COMPENSATION-PLAN BENEFITS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 73B, ARTICLE 73C, AND ARTICLE 88B, §§ 49 THROUGH 62, AND MAY ARRANGE AS THE SECRETARY DEEMS APPROPRIATE ANY BENEFIT OPTION FOR INCLUSION IN THE BENEFITS PLAN.

(2) (I) THE SECRETARY SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNOR FOR INCLUSION IN THE BUDGET EACH YEAR THE STATE CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE COST OF THE BENEFITS PLAN.

(II) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE A SUM IN THE BUDGET TO PAY THE COST OF THE STATE'S SHARE TOWARD A PROGRAM OF HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, AND SURGICAL INSURANCE AND OTHER BENEFIT OPTIONS INCLUDED IN THE BENEFITS PLAN FOR STATE EMPLOYEES.