

(I) AN INVENTION, SUGGESTION, OR SUPERIOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OR OTHER PERSONAL EFFORT THAT CONTRIBUTES TO THE EFFICIENCY, ECONOMY, OR OTHER IMPROVEMENT OF STATE OPERATIONS; OR

(II) AN EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACT OR SERVICE THAT IS EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

(2) THE REQUEST MAY BE MADE TO THE SECRETARY DIRECTLY OR THROUGH THE HEAD OF THE EMPLOYEE'S UNIT.

(B) MEETING WITH SECRETARY.

ON REQUEST, THE SECRETARY OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE SHALL MEET WITH THE EMPLOYEE TO DISCUSS THE REQUEST.

(C) DECISION.

THE SECRETARY OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE SHALL:

(1) MAKE A DECISION ON EACH REQUEST; AND

(2) SEND A COPY OF THE DECISION TO:

(I) THE EMPLOYEE WHO MADE THE REQUEST; AND

(II) THE HEAD OF THE EMPLOYEE'S UNIT.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Art. 64A, § 32A(d) and, except for the reference to expenses, (c).

In subsection (b) of this section, the phrase "meet with the employee to discuss the request" is substituted for the former reference to "a personal hearing" to clarify that a formal adjudicatory hearing is not intended.

In subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the phrase "or the Secretary's designee" is added to reflect procedures adopted by the Department to implement the Incentive Awards Program.

Defined terms: "Classified service" § 1-101

"Secretary" § 1-101

8-203. CASH AWARDS — MAXIMUM AMOUNT.

(A) IN GENERAL.

A CASH AWARD MADE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE MORE THAN \$1,000.

(B) EXCEPTION.

NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, A CASH AWARD MAY BE MORE THAN \$1,000, BUT NOT MORE THAN \$5,000, IF THE HEAD OF THE EMPLOYEE'S UNIT AND THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND FISCAL PLANNING