

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

Article 16A – Maryland Emergency Management Agency

7.

(b) In any county, or Baltimore City, in which there is a LOCAL merit system or classified service for the general employees of that political subdivision, the employees and officers of the local organization for emergency management (except the director) shall be included in and subject to all rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of that system or service.

(c) (1) If the county or Baltimore City does not have such a LOCAL merit system or classified service, the county commissioners or county council, or the board of estimates of Baltimore City, may include by regulation the employees and officers of the local organization for emergency management (except the director) in the classified service of the State PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

(2) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, [During] DURING the effective period of any such regulation, the said employees and officers shall be subject to [certain of] the rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of [Article 64A of the Annotated Code, title “Merit System ”] THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION I OF THE STATE PERSONNEL ARTICLE THAT GOVERN CLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES, with the particular board of county commissioners or county council, or the Mayor of Baltimore City, as the appointing officer thereunder [; but the].

(3) THE provisions of this [sentence shall] SUBSECTION MAY not be construed or applied to remove from the particular board of county commissioners or county council or from the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore power to establish and regulate the compensation, vacation allowance, and sick leave of all such employees and officers in the respective political subdivisions.

Article 23A – Corporations – Municipal

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(b) In addition to, but not in substitution of, the powers which have been, or may hereafter be, granted to it, such legislative body also shall have the following express ordinance-making powers:

(19) To establish a merit system in connection with the appointment of all municipal officials and employees not elected or appointed under the Constitution or public general or public local laws of the State, and to request and avail themselves of the facilities of the [Commissioner of State Employment and Registration] DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, AS PROVIDED IN § 2-204 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL ARTICLE, for the administration of such merit system without unnecessary expense.