

the Department of State Police by this Act shall be so transferred on the effective date of this Act without any diminution of their rights, benefits, or employment and retirement status.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all property, including real or personal property, records, fixtures, appropriations, credits, assets, liabilities, obligations, rights, and privileges held by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to carry out the exclusive functions of the Fire Prevention Commission, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, or the Explosives Advisory Council shall be transferred to the Department of State Police on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That nothing in this Act affects the term of office of a member of the Fire Prevention Commission or the Explosives Advisory Council. A person who is a member on the effective date of this Act shall remain a member for the balance of the term to which appointed, unless the member sooner dies, resigns, or is removed under provisions of law.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as otherwise provided by law, all existing laws, rules and regulations, proposed rules and regulations, standards and guidelines, policies, orders and other directives, forms, plans, memberships, contracts, property, investigations, administrative and judicial responsibilities, rights to sue and be sued, and all other duties and responsibilities associated with the functions of the Fire Prevention Commission, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Explosives Advisory Council prior to the effective date of this Act shall continue in effect under the Department of State Police, until completed, withdrawn, canceled, modified, or otherwise changed pursuant to law.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all contracts, agreements, grants, or other obligations entered into by the Fire Prevention Commission or the Office of the State Fire Marshal, prior to July 1, 1997, are hereby declared to be valid, legal, and binding obligations of the Department of State Police, enforceable in accordance with their terms.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publishers of the Annotated Code of Maryland, subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative Reference, shall propose the correction of any agency names and titles throughout the Annotated Code that are rendered incorrect by this Act and any necessary corrections shall be satisfied by passage of the Annual Corrective Bill of 1998.

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

Approved May 8, 1997.