

the date of release of amount withheld shall be recommended by the committee after consultation with the Legislative Auditor, including any recommendations that the Legislative Auditor deems appropriate. The Governor shall advise the committee as to the decision regarding the committee's recommendations. If the Governor directs that the salary of the head of the agency and/or salary of the Secretary of the department and/or salary of the State official deemed responsible be withheld, the Governor may recommend the date on which the salary shall be restored to the full amount as provided in the budget and the amount to be withheld to be paid. The committee shall consider the recommendations of the Governor and advise the Governor as to its decision whether or not to allow salary to be restored to the full amount as provided in the budget and the amount withheld to be paid.

SECTION 19. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Board of Public Works, in exercising its authority to create additional positions pursuant to Section 7-236 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, may authorize during the fiscal year no more than 50 positions in excess of the total number of authorized State positions on July 1, 1997, as determined by the Secretary of Budget and Management. Provided, however, that if the imposition of this ceiling causes undue hardship in any department, agency, board, or commission, additional positions may be created for that affected unit to the extent that positions authorized by the General Assembly for the fiscal year are abolished in that unit or in other units of State government. It is further provided that the limit of 50 does not apply to any position that may be created in conformance with specific manpower statutes that may be enacted by the State or federal government nor to any positions created to implement block grant actions or to implement a program reflecting fundamental changes in federal/State relationships. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the Board of Public Works may authorize additional temporary positions to meet public emergencies resulting from an act of God and violent acts of men, which are necessary to protect the health and safety of the people of Maryland.

In addition to any positions created within the limitation of 50 under this section, the Board of Public Works may authorize the creation of 250 positions within the executive branch provided that 1.5 full-time contract positions or the equivalent are abolished for each permanent position authorized and that there be no increase in agency funds in the current budget and the next two subsequent budgets as the result of this action. The Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management shall prepare a report for the budget committees upon creation of these positions detailing where permanent positions have been abolished. It is the intent of the General Assembly that priority be given to converting individuals that have been in a contract position for at least two years.

SECTION 20. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that all State departments, agencies, bureaus, commissions, boards, and other organizational units included in the State budget shall prepare and submit items for the Fiscal Year 1999 budget detailed by statewide "Comptroller Object" classification in accordance with instructions promulgated by the Comptroller of the Treasury. The presentation of budget data in the State budget book shall include object, fund, and personnel data in the manner provided for Fiscal Year 1998 except as indicated elsewhere in this act; however, this shall not preclude the placement of additional information into the budget books. For Fiscal Year 1999, the budget detail shall be