

(C) (1) THE SECRETARY SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR AND IS RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNOR. THE SECRETARY SHALL ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON ALL MATTERS ASSIGNED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CARRYING OUT THE GOVERNOR'S POLICIES ON THESE MATTERS.

(2) THE SECRETARY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES TO PROMOTE THE ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

(3) ~~NOTWITHSTANDING~~ SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE SECRETARY MAY ESTABLISH, REORGANIZE, OR CONSOLIDATE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE DEPARTMENT AS NECESSARY TO FULFILL THE DUTIES ASSIGNED BY THE SECRETARY.

(4) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(D) THE SECRETARY IS ENTITLED TO THE SALARY PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

Part II. Maryland Veterans Commission.

9-904.

(a) In this Part II of this ~~[subtitle]~~ SUBTITLE, the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Commission" means the Maryland Veterans Commission.

(c) "Director" means the Director of the ~~Maryland Veterans~~ MARYLAND VETERANS Commission.

9-905.

There is a Maryland Veterans Commission IN THE DEPARTMENT.

[9-906.

The Commission is an independent unit and, except by statute, may not be made a part of another unit of the State government.]

9-907.

(a) (1) The Commission consists of the following ~~26~~ 28 members:

(i) as an ex officio member, the Chairman of the Maryland Veterans' Home Commission; and

(ii) ~~25~~ 27 members appointed by the Governor.

(2) Of the ~~25~~ 27 appointed members:

(i) 1 shall be appointed from each of the 8 congressional districts in the State;