

5-201.

(A) THERE IS A DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, ESTABLISHED AS A PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

(B) THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT IS THE SECRETARY OF PLANNING, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

(C) THE SECRETARY SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR AND IS RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNOR.

(D) (1) 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) THE SECRETARY MAY ESTABLISH, REORGANIZE, OR ABOLISH AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE DEPARTMENT AS NECESSARY TO FULFILL THE DUTIES ASSIGNED TO THE SECRETARY.

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

[5-203.] 5-202.

(a) The [Director] SECRETARY may employ a staff in accordance with the State budget.

(b) Each staff assistant in charge of a particular area of responsibility and each professional consultant is in the executive service, management service, or is a special appointment in the State Personnel Management System and is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the [Director] SECRETARY.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section or otherwise by law, the [Director] SECRETARY shall appoint and remove all other staff in accordance with the provisions of the State Personnel and Pensions Article.

(d) The [Director] SECRETARY may review any personnel action taken by any unit in the [Office] DEPARTMENT.

[5-204.] 5-203.

(a) The [Director] SECRETARY is responsible for the budget of the [Office] DEPARTMENT.

(b) The [Director] SECRETARY may adopt regulations for the [Office] DEPARTMENT.