In subsection (b)(2) of this section, the words "is appointed by" are added for clarity.

In subsection (b)(3) of this section, the reference to the "State Merit System Law" is substituted for the former reference to "Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland" to conform to Art. 64A, § 44 of the Code and to obviate the need to amend subsection (b)(3) of this section when Art. 64A is revised as part of the State Personnel Article.

In subsection (b)(5) of this section, the former qualification that "the appointee is to serve at the pleasure of the Secretary" is deleted as surplusage. This deletion conforms subsection (b)(5) of this section to similar provisions elsewhere in the Code. See, e.g.,  $TR \S 2-102(e)$ .

The Business Regulation Article Review Committee notes, for consideration by the General Assembly, that there is no express authorization for the deputy secretary to serve as acting secretary in the absence of the Secretary. The General Assembly may wish to add that authority to subsection (a)(2) of this section.

Defined terms: "Department" § 1-101 "Secretary" § 1-101

2-104. GENERAL AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF SECRETARY.

(A) BUDGETS.

THE SECRETARY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND FOR THE BUDGET OF EACH UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(B) SEAL.

THE SECRETARY SHALL HAVE A SEAL.

- (C) PLANS.
- (1) THE SECRETARY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLANNING OF ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT.
- (2) THE SECRETARY MAY REVIEW AND APPROVE, DISAPPROVE, OR MODIFY THE PLANS AND PROPOSALS OF THE UNITS IN THE DEPARTMENT.
  - (D) INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS.

THE SECRETARY MAY INVESTIGATE OR HOLD A HEARING ON ANY COMPLAINT ABOUT THE OPERATION OF A UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT AND MAY REPORT THE FINDINGS OF THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR.

(E) MEETINGS.