

Dixon re-elected State Treasurer

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Richard N. Dixon was recently re-elected to serve another term as Treasurer of the State of Maryland.

The treasurer is elected by joint ballot of the Senate and the House of Delegates, of the Maryland General Assembly. Treasurer Dixon was elected by 98 percent of the Democratic and Republican parties. They agreed that he has fulfilled his position requirements and done an outstanding job managing and investing the State's money.

The 22nd state treasurer and the first African American to serve in the treasurer's position, Dixon has served Maryland since Jan. 1996. During his first term, he implemented a variety of practices to more effectively manage the State's finances.

* A Comprehensive Reconciliation System - a system designed to balance the books and maintain a balance on a monthly basis

* An on-line reconciliation system - the computer portion of the balanced bookkeeping system

* An updated computer center - a division of data processing designed to handle data processing and check-writing functions

* A State Treasurer's website - which allows the public to e-mail questions and comments to the Treasurer, as well as providing other functions.

Across the board opinion is that Treasurer Dixon has brought the treasurer's office into the 21st century.

Delegate Rushern Baker, a Cheverly, Md. Democrat said, "Treasurer Richard Dixon has been

a good steward of the state's money. He has implemented sound investment practices while at the same time earned hundreds of millions of dollars for the state in interest."

Delegate Howard "Pete" Rawlings commented that Maryland "is fortunate to have Richard Dixon at the helm as State Treasurer. He has proven to be a prudent investor of the state's money and has opened a door that was previously closed to African-

American banks and investment firms. He is also a no-nonsense, efficient administrator ... computerized the entire treasurer's office and located money that had previously never been accounted for."

In addition to being the first African-American State Treasurer, Mr. Dixon has also accomplished a number of other firsts, including being the first African American to serve on the Board of Public Works, Maryland's highest administrative council.

A former delegate and a Carroll County native, Treasurer Dixon is the first citizen from that county to serve as a constitutional officer in

over 100 years and the first State Treasurer who hails from Western Maryland.

To complement his duties as operator of the state's money, Treasurer Dixon has a number of external responsibilities including serving on approximately 14 separate boards and commissions.

Treasurer Dixon, who was out of town at the time of publication, was unavailable for comment.