

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety and health, and being passed upon a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two houses of the General Assembly the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 6, 1931.

CHAPTER 119.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 9 of Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (Edition of 1924), title "Merit System," limiting the privileges accorded ex-service men and women to those who served during a war in which the United States was engaged.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 9 of Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Volume 2, Edition of 1924, title "Merit System," be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

9. Examinations held by the Commissioner to establish lists of persons eligible for appointment may be written or oral or in the form of a demonstration of skill or any combination of these and shall be of a character fairly to test and determine the relative figures and ability of candidates actually to perform the duties of the class of positions to which they seek to be appointed. Any investigation of training and experience and any test of technical knowledge, manual skill or physical fitness that in the judgment of the Commissioner serves to this end may be employed. Examination shall be competitive, free and open to all persons who may be lawfully appointed to any position within the class for which the examination is held, with such limitations as may be specified in the rules by the Commissioner as to age, sex, health, habits, moral character, physical condition, and other qualifications that are in the judgment of the Commissioner prerequisite to the performance of the duties of such positions; provided, however, that the Commissioner may, from time to time, provide for general rules exempting from competitive examinations, positions to be filled by unskilled manual laborers, including positions for road patrolmen under the State Roads Commission, and may, if he sees fit, provide in lieu of