

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PLANNING

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(a) *The Department of State Planning is hereby created as a principal department of the State Government. The head of the Department of State Planning shall be the Secretary of State Planning, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.*

(b) *The Secretary of State Planning shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. He shall be directly responsible to the Governor, shall counsel and advise him on all matters assigned to the Department of State Planning and shall be responsible for carrying out the Governor's policies with respect to such matters. The Secretary shall be a person qualified by training or experience in State, regional or local planning or having significant civic, governmental or business experience in matters connected with urban or rural planning. He shall receive such salary and have such assistants, professional consultants and employees as provided in the State budget. Any assistant secretaries, professional consultants and officials hereinafter specifically provided for, shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. All other employees shall be appointed and removed by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland.*

(c) *The Secretary shall be responsible for the operation of the Department of State Planning and shall establish guidelines and procedures to promote the orderly and efficient administration thereof. He may establish areas of responsibility within the Department and may reorganize or abolish the same as necessary to fulfill effectively the duties assigned to him. He shall appoint, with the approval of the Governor, a Deputy Secretary who shall have such duties as are provided by law or delegated by the Secretary. The Deputy Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary and shall receive such compensation as is provided in the State budget.*

(d) *The Secretary may also appoint, with the approval of the Governor and upon the determination of the Governor that the Department needs a full-time legal adviser, a General Counsel who shall be a member of the Maryland Bar and who shall receive such compensation as is provided in the State budget. The General Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary, and shall render legal advice and assistance to the Secretary and other officials of the Department. The General Counsel may not represent the Secretary or the Department of State Planning in litigation except as may be otherwise provided by law or authorized by the Attorney General.*

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(D) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL BE THE LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE DEPARTMENT. HE SHALL, AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR, ASSIGN TO THE DEPARTMENT AT LEAST ONE AND SUCH ADDITIONAL NUMBER OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL AS MAY HEREAFTER BE AUTHORIZED BY LAW FOR SUCH DEPARTMENT. ONE OF THE SAID ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL SHALL BE DESIGNATED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AS COUNSEL TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PLANNING. THE COUNSEL TO THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE NO DUTY