Unofficial Copy 1996 Regular Session

#### EMERGENCY BILL

P4 6lr1749 SB 46/95 - JPR

**By: Senators Stone, Jimeno, and Boozer** Introduced and read first time: January 24, 1996

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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#### A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

## 2 State Personnel - Hearings and Decisions

- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Personnel to delegate authority to the
- 4 Office of Administrative Hearings to hear and decide certain appeals; clarifying
- 5 certain delegations of authority to the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct
- 6 certain hearings and to issue certain decisions in contested State employment cases;
- 7 authorizing the Office of Administrative Hearings to issue certain final decisions;
- 8 making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to hearings and
- 9 decisions in contested cases under the State Personnel Article.
- 10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 11 Article State Personnel and Pensions
- 12 Section 2-301, 2-302, 2-303, and 2-304
- 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 14 (1994 Volume and 1995 Supplement)
- 15 BY repealing
- 16 Article State Personnel and Pensions
- 17 Section 2-305
- 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 19 (1994 Volume and 1995 Supplement)
- 20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

# 22 Article - State Personnel and Pensions

- 23 2-301.
- 24 The Secretary [may] SHALL delegate to the Office of Administrative Hearings the
- 25 authority to conduct a hearing and issue a final decision in any of thefollowing:
- 26 (1) a grievance under § 14-1B-06 of the Education Article or § 10-209(b) of
- 27 this article; and
- 28 (2) an appeal under § 6-107(d)(1) of this article from the denial of a pay
- 29 increment.

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- 2 The Secretary [may] SHALL delegate to the Office of Administrative Hearings the
- 3 authority to conduct a hearing and issue a [proposed] FINAL decision [for approval by
- 4 the Secretary] in any of the following:
- 5 (1) a Whistleblower Law hearing under § 3-308 of this article;
- 6 (2) a hearing under § 4-504 of this article on an unsatisfactory work or 7 conduct report;
- 8 (3) an appeal under § 4-604 of this article from the proposed demotion of 9 an employee;
- 10 (4) an appeal under § 9-103 of this article by an employee who is rejected 11 while on probation as a result of a promotion;
- 12 (5) an appeal under § 9-205 of this article from charges for removal of an 13 employee;
- 14 (6) a preliminary hearing under § 9-303 of this article on the suspension of 15 an employee pending removal;
- 16 (7) an appeal under § 9-406 of this article from the disciplinary suspension 17 of an employee; and
- 18 (8) an appeal under Article 29, § 11-109(b) of the Code from the removal of 19 an employee of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.
- 20 2-303.
- The [Secretary may delegate to the deputy secretary, an assistant secretary, or
- 22 another official in the Department whose duties are unrelated to the hearing process, the
- 23 authority to approve any of the following:
- 24 (1) a proposed decision issued under § 2-302 of this subtitle; and
- 25 (2) a proposed] OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS SHALL ISSUE
- 26 THE FINAL decision [issued] in a grievance arbitration under § 10-209(c) of this article.
- 27 2-304.
- In an appeal submitted to the Secretary under Title 13, Subtitle 1A of the
- 29 Education Article, the Secretary may delegate authority TO THE OFFICE OF
- 30 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS in a way that is consistent with the other delegations
- 31 allowed under this subtitle.
- 32 [2-305.
- Within 30 days after a delegation of authority is made under this subtitle, the
- 34 Secretary shall publish notice of the delegation in the Maryland Register.]
- 35 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
- 36 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has
- 37 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to

- 1 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
- 2 enacted.