
By: Delegates Perry and Vallario

Introduced and read first time: February 14, 1997

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Defender - Salary - Minimum**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the salary of the Public Defender may not be less
4 than a certain amount; and generally relating to the Public Defender.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article 27A - Public Defender
7 Section 3(a)
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article 27A - Public Defender**

13 3.

14 (a) The Office of Public Defender is hereby established in the executive branch of
15 the government of the State of Maryland. The head of the Office shall be the Public
16 Defender, who shall be appointed by the board of trustees, and who shall serve at the
17 pleasure of the board of trustees. To be qualified for appointment as Public Defender, a
18 person must be an attorney-at-law, admitted to practice law in the State of Maryland by
19 the Court of Appeals of Maryland, and engaged in the practice of law for a period of five
20 (5) years prior to his appointment. The Public Defender shall receive such salary as
21 provided in the budget, BUT NOT LESS THAN THE SALARY OF A JUDGE OF THE
22 CIRCUIT COURT. [and] THE PUBLIC DEFENDER shall not engage in the private practice
23 of law.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 1997.