

SENATE BILL 319

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SB 519/97 - JPR

1998 Regular Session
8r1925
CF 8r1894

By: **Senator Baker**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1998

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Defender - Salary**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the salary of the Public Defender at a certain
4 amount; making stylistic changes; 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 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 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
15 Branch of the government of the State of Maryland. The head of the Office shall be
16 the Public Defender, who shall be appointed by the board of trustees, and who shall
17 serve at the pleasure of the board of trustees. To be qualified for appointment as
18 Public Defender, a person must be an attorney-at-law, admitted to practice law in
19 the State of Maryland by the Court of Appeals of Maryland, and engaged in the
20 practice of law for a period of five (5) years prior to his appointment. The Public
21 Defender shall receive [such salary as provided in the budget, and shall] THE SAME
22 SALARY AS AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF A CIRCUIT COURT. THE PUBLIC DEFENDER MAY
23 not engage in the private practice of law.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 1998.