

SENATE BILL 170

Unofficial Copy
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1999 Regular Session
9lr0197
CF 9lr0206

By: **The President (Administration) and Senators Miller, Middleton, Blount, Astle, Baker, Bromwell, Collins, Conway, Dyson, Exum, Green, Lawlah, Munson, Ruben, Stone, and Teitelbaum**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 1999
Assigned to: Rules
Re-referred to: Economic and Environmental Affairs, February 1, 1999

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments
Read second time: March 1, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Veterans Affairs**

3 FOR the purpose of creating the Department of Veterans Affairs as a principal
4 department of State government; providing for the qualifications, appointment,
5 powers, duties and salary of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; organizing the
6 Maryland Veterans Commission, Maryland Veterans' Home Commission, and
7 War Memorial Commission under the Department; providing for the staffing,
8 administration, and duties of the Maryland Veterans Commission; authorizing
9 the Maryland Veterans Commission to delegate certain powers and duties under
10 certain circumstances; repealing certain requirements of the Maryland Veterans
11 Commission; revising certain definitions; correcting certain terms; repealing
12 certain obsolete provisions; defining certain terms; specifying that the publisher
13 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with the Department of
14 Legislative Services, shall correct agency names and titles in the Code to
15 conform to the changes made by this Act; and generally relating to the
16 Department of Veterans Affairs.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article - State Government
19 Section 8-201; 9-801 through 9-807, inclusive, to be under the new part "Part
20 IV. War Memorial Commission"; 9-901 to be under the amended subtitle
21 "Subtitle 9. Department of Veterans Affairs" and the amended part "Part I.
22 Established"; 9-904, 9-905, 9-907, 9-909 through 9-915, inclusive, 9-920,
23 9-925, and 9-926
24 Annotated Code of Maryland

1 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

2 BY adding to

3 Article - State Government

4 Section 9-902

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

7 BY repealing

8 Article - State Government

9 Section 9-906; and the subtitle designation "Subtitle 8. War Memorial
10 Commission" in Title 9

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

14 Article - State Government

15 Section 9-908, 9-917, 9-918, 9-919, 9-921 through 9-924, inclusive, and 9-927
16 through 9-930, inclusive

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21

Article - State Government

22 8-201.

23 (a) The Executive Branch of the State government shall have not more than
24 21 principal departments, each of which shall embrace a broad, functional area of that
25 Branch.

26 (b) The principal departments of the Executive Branch of the State
27 government are:

28 (1) Aging;

29 (2) Agriculture;

30 (3) Budget and Management;

31 (4) Business and Economic Development;

32 (5) the Environment;

33 (6) General Services;

- 1 (7) Health and Mental Hygiene;
- 2 (8) Housing and Community Development;
- 3 (9) Human Resources;
- 4 (10) Juvenile Justice;
- 5 (11) Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;
- 6 (12) Natural Resources;
- 7 (13) Public Safety and Correctional Services;
- 8 (14) State Police; [and]
- 9 (15) Transportation; AND
- 10 (16) VETERANS AFFAIRS.

11 Subtitle 9. DEPARTMENT OF Veterans AFFAIRS.

12 Part I. [Definition] ESTABLISHED.

13 9-901.

14 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
15 INDICATED.

16 (B) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

17 (C) "SECRETARY" MEANS THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

18 (D) Except as otherwise provided in §§ 9-913 and 9-914 of this subtitle, [in
19 this subtitle,] "veteran" means an individual who served on active duty in the armed
20 forces of the United States, OTHER THAN FOR TRAINING, AND WAS DISCHARGED OR
21 RELEASED UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE.

22 9-902.

23 (A) THERE IS A DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, ESTABLISHED AS A
24 PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

25 (B) THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT IS THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS
26 AFFAIRS WHO SHALL BE:

27 (1) A VETERAN WHO HAS AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE
28 SERVICE WITH A UNIFORMED SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES; AND

29 (2) APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF
30 THE SENATE.

1 (C) (1) THE SECRETARY SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR AND
2 IS RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNOR. THE SECRETARY SHALL ADVISE THE
3 GOVERNOR ON ALL MATTERS ASSIGNED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND IS RESPONSIBLE
4 FOR CARRYING OUT THE GOVERNOR'S POLICIES ON THESE MATTERS.

5 (2) THE SECRETARY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE
6 DEPARTMENT AND SHALL ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES TO PROMOTE
7 THE ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

8 (3) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE SECRETARY
9 MAY ESTABLISH, REORGANIZE, OR CONSOLIDATE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE
10 DEPARTMENT AS NECESSARY TO FULFILL THE DUTIES ASSIGNED BY THE
11 SECRETARY.

12 (4) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO
13 CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

14 (D) THE SECRETARY IS ENTITLED TO THE SALARY PROVIDED IN THE STATE
15 BUDGET.

16 Part II. Maryland Veterans Commission.

17 9-904.

18 (a) In this Part II of this [subtitle] SUBTITLE, the following words have the
19 meanings indicated.

20 (b) "Commission" means the Maryland Veterans Commission.

21 (c) "Director" means the Director of the Maryland Veterans Commission.

22 9-905.

23 There is a Maryland Veterans Commission IN THE DEPARTMENT.

24 [9-906.

25 The Commission is an independent unit and, except by statute, may not be
26 made a part of another unit of the State government.]

27 9-907.

28 (a) (1) The Commission consists of the following 26 members:

29 (i) as an ex officio member, the Chairman of the Maryland
30 Veterans' Home Commission; and

31 (ii) 25 members appointed by the Governor.

32 (2) Of the 25 appointed members:

1 (i) 1 shall be appointed from each of the 8 congressional districts in
2 the State;

3 (ii) 1 shall be appointed from the State at large; and

4 (iii) 1 shall be appointed from a list of individuals submitted to the
5 Governor by each of the following organizations:

- 6 1. the American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.;
- 7 2. the American Legion;
- 8 3. the Amvets;
- 9 4. the Catholic War Veterans;
- 10 5. the Disabled American Veterans;
- 11 6. the Fleet Reserve Association;
- 12 7. the Jewish War Veterans;
- 13 8. the Marine Corps League;
- 14 9. the Maryland Retired Officers Association;
- 15 10. the Military Order of the Purple Heart;
- 16 11. the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association;
- 17 12. the [Polish-American War Veterans] POLISH LEGION OF
18 AMERICAN VETERANS;
- 19 13. the Veterans of Foreign Wars;
- 20 14. the Veterans of World War I;
- 21 15. the Vietnam Veterans of America; and
- 22 16. the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

23 (b) Each member must be a resident of the State and a veteran whose final
24 separation from active service with a uniformed service of the United States was
25 under honorable conditions.

26 (c) (1) The term of an appointed member is 7 years.

27 (2) The terms of the appointed members are staggered as required by the
28 terms provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 1984.

29 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
30 appointed and qualifies.

1 (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for
2 the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

3 9-908.

4 From among the members of the Commission, the Governor shall appoint a
5 chairman.

6 9-909.

7 (a) The Commission shall determine the times and places of its meetings.

8 (b) A member of the Commission:

9 (1) may not receive compensation; but

10 (2) if the Commission approves, is entitled to reimbursement for
11 expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State
12 budget.

13 (c) The [Commission may employ a staff] DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE
14 STAFF SUPPORT TO THE COMMISSION in accordance with the State budget.

15 9-910.

16 (a) The [Commission] SECRETARY, WITH THE COMMISSION'S APPROVAL,
17 shall appoint a Director for the Commission.

18 (b) The Director is entitled to the salary provided in the State budget.

19 (c) In addition to any duties set forth elsewhere, the Director shall:

20 (1) survey the State to ensure that veterans and their dependents are
21 not neglected; and

22 (2) perform any other duty that the Commission directs.

23 9-911.

24 (a) The Commission shall have a service center in Baltimore City, which shall
25 be the principal office of the Commission.

26 (b) (1) The Commission may:

27 (i) have any additional service centers that the Commission
28 considers necessary or advisable to facilitate and expedite the servicing of claims of
29 veterans and dependents; and

30 (ii) close any additional service center that the Commission no
31 longer considers necessary.

- 1 (2) The Commission shall try to locate each additional service center:
- 2 (i) centrally in the area to be served so that the greatest number of
3 veterans:
- 4 1. have access with the least possible delay, travel, and
5 inconvenience; and
- 6 2. receive, as far as possible, personal attention; and
- 7 (ii) in space that is provided rent-free.

8 (c) The Commission AND THE DEPARTMENT shall coordinate, as much as
9 possible, with other appropriate units to:

- 10 (1) avoid an overlap of effort; and
- 11 (2) provide, if possible, at 1 service center or in 1 general local area,
12 complete information about the problems that relate to veterans.

13 (d) The Director shall supervise the service centers.

14 9-912.

15 (a) (1) The Commission AND THE DEPARTMENT shall help veterans and
16 their dependents to receive promptly and regularly all of the benefits to which
17 veterans or dependents are entitled under federal law.

18 (2) Among other things, the Commission AND THE DEPARTMENT shall
19 help veterans and their dependents in:

- 20 (i) preparing, in proper form, claims for benefits;
- 21 (ii) presenting the claims to the appropriate governmental unit;
- 22 (iii) trying to prevent and to relieve congestion in the processing of
23 the claims; and
- 24 (iv) obtaining and expediting action on the claims.

25 (b) The Director shall keep in contact with the appropriate governmental unit
26 as to the status of each claim of a veteran or dependent of a veteran.

27 9-913.

28 (a) (1) In this section, "State veterans' cemetery" means a cemetery that the
29 Commission establishes under this section.

30 (2) In this section and in § 9-914 of this subtitle, "veteran" means an
31 individual who:

- 1 (i) served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States;
2 or
- 3 (ii) served as a member of the State militia ordered into active
4 service of the [State] UNITED STATES BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT and was killed
5 in the line of duty.
- 6 (b) The Commission may establish 1 or more cemeteries in the State for the
7 burial of veterans and their immediate families.
- 8 (c) (1) The Commission may accept land, on behalf of the State or a political
9 subdivision of the State, or otherwise acquire land for a State veterans' cemetery, if
10 the Commission has the approval of:
- 11 (i) the governing body of the county where the State veterans'
12 cemetery is to be located;
- 13 (ii) the delegation in the General Assembly for the county where
14 the State veterans' cemetery is to be located; and
- 15 (iii) the Board of Public Works.
- 16 (2) In selecting a location for a proposed State veterans' cemetery, the
17 Commission shall give priority to land that is near a national memorial battle site.
- 18 (d) (1) The Commission shall maintain and supervise each State veterans'
19 cemetery.
- 20 (2) The Washington Cemetery Board of Trustees shall be under the
21 supervision of the Commission.
- 22 (e) (1) Subject to the limitations in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the
23 Commission shall provide a plot in a State veterans' cemetery, without charge, to an
24 applicant who meets the requirements of this section.
- 25 (2) In the order in which the Commission receives the applications for
26 plots, the Commission shall allot a plot in the State veterans' cemetery that is closest
27 to the residence of the veteran and has an available plot.
- 28 (f) (1) To qualify for a plot in a State veterans' cemetery, the applicant must
29 be a veteran or a member of the immediate family of a veteran who meets the
30 requirements of this subsection.
- 31 (2) The veteran must have an honorable discharge from the armed
32 forces.
- 33 (3) The veteran must have been a resident of the State:
- 34 (i) when the veteran entered the armed forces;
- 35 (ii) when the veteran died; or

1 (iii) for 20 years, unless, for a reason that the Commission finds
2 compelling, the Commission waives the time period.

3 (g) To obtain a plot in a State veterans' cemetery, an applicant shall submit to
4 the Commission an application on the form that the Commission provides.

5 (h) (1) In a plot that is allotted to a veteran, the Commission shall bury:

6 (i) the veteran; and

7 (ii) any member of the immediate family of the veteran if the family
8 member can be buried in a space above or below the veteran.

9 (2) (i) With each plot, the Commission shall provide 1 grave liner not
10 to exceed \$100 in cost, subject to an annual increase of not more than 5 percent to
11 allow for inflation.

12 (ii) For an eligible veteran, the Commission shall pay for the grave
13 liner.

14 (iii) For an eligible family member, the grave liner shall be paid for
15 by the family or estate.

16 (i) (1) The Commission shall bury the veteran without charge.

17 (2) For burial of a member of the immediate family, the Commission
18 may[:

19 (i)] set a fee that does not exceed the cost of burial[; or

20 (ii) accept, from the social security burial allowance, an amount
21 that does not exceed the cost of the burial].

22 9-914.

23 The Commission shall keep a registry of the graves of veterans who are buried
24 in the State.

25 9-915.

26 (a) In this section, "veterans' memorials and monuments" means:

27 (1) the Maryland Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Associated Land as
28 established pursuant to Joint Resolution No. 22 of 1983; [and]

29 (2) the Maryland Korean War Memorial and Associated Land as
30 established pursuant to Joint Resolution No. 3 of 1985; AND

31 (3) THE MARYLAND WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND ASSOCIATED LAND
32 AS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 41, § 18-303 OF THE CODE.

1 (b) There is a Veterans' Memorials and Monuments Program administered by
2 the Maryland Veterans Commission.

3 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide for the operation, maintenance,
4 [and] security, AND PRESERVATION of veterans' memorials and monuments.

5 (d) In furtherance of these purposes, the Commission may, as provided for in
6 the budget:

7 (1) lease land on behalf of the State or a political subdivision of the State;
8 or

9 (2) acquire land that has been improved by construction of a memorial or
10 monument.

11 (e) The [Commission] SECRETARY may adopt regulations to carry out the
12 provisions of this section.

13 (f) (1) The Commission shall, as provided for in the budget, provide for the
14 management of the veterans' memorials and monuments as provided in this section.

15 (2) THE COMMISSION MAY DELEGATE ANY OF ITS POWERS AND DUTIES
16 UNDER THIS SECTION TO A SPECIAL COMMISSION OR BOARD CREATED BY THE
17 COMMISSION AND APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR.

18 (g) The Commission may acquire, hold, use, and improve property for the
19 purposes specified in subsection (c) of this section.

20 (h) Subject to Title 7 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, the
21 Commission may:

22 (1) accept gifts or grants;

23 (2) unless otherwise provided, spend the principal and income of a gift or
24 grant; and

25 (3) invest all or part of the principal income in general obligations of the
26 State or any other security.

27 Part III. Maryland Veterans' Home Commission.

28 9-917.

29 In this Part III of this subtitle, "Home" means the home for veterans that the
30 Maryland Veterans' Home Commission supervises.

31 9-918.

32 (a) The purposes of the Maryland Veterans' Home Commission are to operate
33 and to manage in the State a home for veterans.

1 (b) The General Assembly declares the purposes of the Maryland Veterans'
2 Home Commission to be of general benefit to the veterans of the State.

3 9-919.

4 This Part III of this subtitle does not limit any power or activity of:

- 5 (1) a unit of the State government;
- 6 (2) a political subdivision of the State; or
- 7 (3) any person who is interested in veterans in the State.

8 9-920.

9 There is a Maryland Veterans' Home Commission IN THE DEPARTMENT.

10 9-921.

11 (a) The Veterans' Home Commission consists of the following 15 members:

12 (1) 11 individuals appointed by the Governor with the advice and
13 consent of the Senate; and

14 (2) as ex officio members:

- 15 (i) the Governor;
- 16 (ii) the President of the Senate;
- 17 (iii) the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and
- 18 (iv) the Chairman of the Maryland Veterans Commission.

19 (b) (1) The term of an appointed member is 4 years.

20 (2) The terms of the appointed members are staggered as required by the
21 terms provided for members of the Veterans' Home Commission on October 1, 1984.

22 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
23 appointed and qualifies.

24 (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for
25 the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

26 (c) As far as is practicable and is consistent with the purposes and goals of the
27 Veterans' Home Commission, the Governor shall choose appointed members so as to
28 have a broad distribution from among:

- 29 (1) veterans and veterans' groups; and
- 30 (2) the geographical areas of the State.

1 9-922.

2 (a) From among its members, the Veterans' Home Commission shall elect a
3 chairman, a secretary, and any other officers that the Commission considers
4 appropriate.

5 (b) The manner of election of officers and their terms of office shall be as the
6 Veterans' Home Commission determines.

7 9-923.

8 (a) Seven members of the Veterans' Home Commission are a quorum to do
9 business.

10 (b) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission shall meet:

11 (i) at least twice a year, at the times and places that it determines;
12 and

13 (ii) at the call of the Chairman, on the Chairman's initiative or on
14 the request of at least 4 members.

15 (2) Unless all of the members of the Veterans' Home Commission agree
16 otherwise, the secretary of the Commission shall give each member at least 7 days'
17 written notice of a meeting.

18 (3) If the President is unable to attend a meeting, the President may
19 designate a Senator or an employee of the General Assembly to represent the
20 President at the meeting.

21 (4) If the Speaker is unable to attend a meeting, the Speaker may
22 designate a Delegate or an employee of the General Assembly to represent the
23 Speaker at the meeting.

24 (5) If the Governor is unable to attend a meeting, the Governor may
25 designate another individual to represent the Governor at the meeting.

26 (c) A member of the Veterans' Home Commission:

27 (1) may not receive compensation, but

28 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
29 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

30 9-924.

31 The Attorney General is the legal adviser to the Veterans' Home Commission.

1 9-925.

2 (a) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission shall THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT
3 submit an annual report:

4 (i) to the Governor; and

5 (ii) subject to § 2-1246 of this article, to the General Assembly.

6 (2) The annual report shall:

7 (i) describe the activities of the Commission; and

8 (ii) include any recommendations for furthering the purposes of the
9 Commission.

10 (b) As far as practicable, the Veterans' Home Commission shall cooperate with
11 persons and public agencies to carry out the purposes and goals of the Commission.

12 9-926.

13 (a) The Veterans' Home Commission may WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE
14 SECRETARY adopt regulations to:

15 (1) govern itself; and

16 (2) carry out the purposes and goals of the Commission.

17 (b) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission may take any necessary and proper
18 action to carry out a specific power under this Part III of this subtitle.

19 (2) Subject to the legislative purposes of this Part III of this subtitle, the
20 Veterans' Home Commission may make contracts and other legal agreements.

21 (c) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission may delegate any of its powers to a
22 committee of 1 or more of its members or to the Commandant of the Home.

23 (2) If the Veterans' Home Commission delegates any power to a
24 committee of its members, the committee:

25 (i) may not incur any expenses without the consent of the
26 Commission; and

27 (ii) at each regular meeting of the Commission or more often as it
28 directs, shall submit to the Commission a report on any action that the committee has
29 taken since its last report.

30 9-927.

31 (a) The Veterans' Home Commission shall:

1 (1) maintain and supervise generally the Home in accordance with this
2 Part III of this subtitle; and

3 (2) adopt any regulation that is needed for management of the Home,
4 including regulations for admission, maintenance, and discharge of its residents.

5 (b) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission may appoint a Commandant for the
6 Home and employ any other staff that is needed to manage the Home properly.

7 (2) In appointing or employing staff, the Veterans' Home Commission
8 shall give preference to a veteran who has an honorable discharge from the armed
9 forces.

10 (3) The Veterans' Home Commission shall set the salary for each official
11 of the Home in an amount that does not exceed the salary paid by similar institutions
12 for the service.

13 (4) The Commandant shall:

14 (i) serve at the pleasure of the Veterans' Home Commission; and

15 (ii) perform any duty that the Veterans' Home Commission
16 requires.

17 (5) If the Veterans' Home Commission delegates to the Commandant
18 responsibility for employing staff, the Commission shall hold the Commandant
19 strictly accountable for the actions of each individual whom the Commandant
20 employs.

21 9-928.

22 (a) In accordance with the regulations of the Veterans' Home Commission and
23 applicable law, the Home shall be open to a veteran who:

24 (1) has an honorable discharge from the armed forces; and

25 (2) is a resident of the State.

26 (b) (1) The Veterans' Home Commission may charge an individual a
27 reasonable fee for residence in the Home.

28 (2) The Veterans' Home Commission shall set the fee in accordance with
29 the ability of an individual to pay. However, the fee may not exceed the cost of
30 maintaining the resident in the Home and shall allow the resident enough money for
31 necessary and incidental expenses.

32 (c) A resident may be discharged in accordance with the regulations of the
33 Veterans' Home Commission and applicable law.

1 9-929.

2 (a) To carry out the purposes and goals of the Veterans' Home Commission, the
3 Commission may acquire, hold, use, improve, and convey property.

4 (b) In addition to any other power under this section, to carry out the purposes
5 or goals of the Veterans' Home Commission, the Commission:

6 (1) may accept a gift or grant; and

7 (2) unless the terms of a gift or grant require otherwise, on an
8 affirmative vote of at least 7 members of the Commission, may:

9 (i) spend the principal and income of the gift or grant; or

10 (ii) invest all or part of the principal and income in:

11 1. general obligations of the State; or

12 2. any other security.

13 (c) (1) In addition to any other power under this section, the Veterans' Home
14 Commission may lease any part of its property for use as a concession or other
15 commercial purpose that is consistent with the purposes of the Commission. However,
16 the Commission may not lease its property merely for investment purposes.

17 (2) Notwithstanding any other law, unless the lease expressly provides
18 for redemption by the tenant, the lease is not subject to redemption.

19 9-930.

20 The State is not obligated to provide capital or operating funds for the Veterans'
21 Home Commission but may appropriate money for the purposes and goals of the
22 Commission.

23 [Subtitle 8. War Memorial Commission.]

24 PART IV. WAR MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

25 [9-801.] 9-931.

26 In this PART IV OF THIS subtitle, "Commission" means the War Memorial
27 Commission.

28 [9-802.] 9-932.

29 There is a War Memorial Commission in the Department of [General Services]
30 VETERANS AFFAIRS.

1 [9-803.] 9-933.

2 (a) (1) The Commission consists of 10 members.

3 (2) Of the 10 Commission members:

4 (i) 5 shall be appointed by the Secretary of [General Services]
5 VETERANS AFFAIRS, with the approval of the Governor; and

6 (ii) 5 shall be appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore City.

7 (b) Each member must be a Maryland war veteran.

8 (c) (1) The term of a member is 5 years.

9 (2) The terms of a member are staggered as required by the terms
10 provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 1984.

11 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
12 appointed and qualifies.

13 (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for
14 the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

15 [9-804.] 9-934.

16 (a) From among its members, the Commission may elect:

17 (1) a chairman;

18 (2) a vice chairman; and

19 (3) a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary-treasurer.

20 (b) The manner of election of officers and their terms of office shall be as the
21 Commission determines.

22 [9-805.] 9-935.

23 (a) A member of the Commission may not receive compensation.

24 (b) If the Commission approves the reimbursement and records the vote in the
25 minutes, a member is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
26 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

27 [9-806.] 9-936.

28 The State and Baltimore City jointly shall hold title to the War Memorial
29 Building and the memorial site.

1 [9-807.] 9-937.

2 (a) The Commission may provide for management of the War Memorial
3 Building as provided in this section.

4 (b) (1) The Commission shall adopt regulations that provide for the
5 management of the War Memorial Building in a manner that:

6 (i) permits the greatest possible use of the building by the people of
7 the State and by patriotic organizations in the State; and

8 (ii) to the extent possible, permits the use by the patriotic
9 organizations without cost.

10 (2) The Commission shall enforce the regulations.

11 (c) The Commission may appoint a custodian and a janitor for the War
12 Memorial Building.

13 (d) The Commission may use, for the maintenance and administration of the
14 building, any funds that the General Assembly or the Mayor and City Council of
15 Baltimore appropriate for those purposes.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publisher of the
17 Annotated Code of Maryland, subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative
18 Services, shall correct any agency names and titles throughout the Code that are
19 rendered incorrect by this Act.

20 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 1999.