SENATE BILL 353

P4

By: **Senator Della** Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2008 Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

State Personnel – Independent Personnel Systems in Executive Branch – Disciplinary Actions

4 FOR the purpose of expanding the scope of certain provisions of State personnel law governing actions an appointing authority must take before taking disciplinary 5 6 action related to employee misconduct, and the authority to impose a 7 disciplinary action, to include actions against certain employees of units in the 8 Executive Branch of State government with independent personnel systems; 9 making a certain conforming change; and generally relating to independent 10 personnel systems in the Executive Branch of State government and disciplinary actions related to employee misconduct. 11

- 12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 13 Article State Personnel and Pensions
- 14 Section 11–102 and 11–106
- 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 16 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19

Article - State Personnel and Pensions

- 20 11–102.
- [This] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 11–106 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THIS** subtitle applies to all employees in the State Personnel Management System within the Executive Branch except temporary employees.
- 24 11–106.
 - EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



SENATE BILL 353

1 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF ALL UNITS IN THE $\mathbf{2}$ EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING A UNIT WITH AN 3 INDEPENDENT PERSONNEL SYSTEM, EXCEPT TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES.

4 [(a)] **(B)** Before taking any disciplinary action related to employee misconduct, an appointing authority shall: 5

- 6 (1)investigate the alleged misconduct;
- 7 (2)meet with the employee;
- 8 (3)consider any mitigating circumstances;

9 (4)determine the appropriate disciplinary action, if any, to be 10 imposed; and

11 give the employee a written notice of the disciplinary action to be (5)taken and the employee's appeal rights. 12

13 Except as provided in subsection [(c)] (D) of this section, an [(b)] (C)appointing authority may impose any disciplinary action no later than 30 days after 14 the appointing authority acquires knowledge of the misconduct for which the 1516 disciplinary action is imposed.

17[(c)] (D)(1)An appointing authority may suspend an employee without pay no later than 5 workdays following the close of the employee's next shift after the 18 appointing authority acquires knowledge of the misconduct for which the suspension is 19 20imposed.

21(2)Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays, and employee leave days are 22excluded in calculating the 5-workday period under this subsection.

23SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 24October 1, 2008.