

Chapter 193

**(House Bill 384)**

AN ACT concerning

**Baltimore City – Police Commissioner – Length of Term**

FOR the purpose of repealing a provision requiring that the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City be appointed for a term of a certain number of years; providing that the Police Commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor of Baltimore City; and generally relating to the appointment and term of office for the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
The Public Local Laws of Baltimore City  
Section 16–5(a)  
Article 4 – Public Local Laws of Maryland  
(1979 Edition and 1997 Supplement, and 2000 Supplement, as amended)

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

**Article 4 – Baltimore City**

16–5.

(a) **(1)** The Police Commissioner of Baltimore City shall be appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore City, subject to confirmation by the City Council by a majority vote of its members, [for a term of six years, the first term to commence July 1, 1978, and continue until a successor is appointed and qualified as herein provided] **AND SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE CITY**, but no person is eligible for the appointment unless that person is a citizen of the United States, not less than 30 years of age, and has not had less than five years’ administrative experience that is sufficiently broad, responsible and technical to prepare that person to function effectively at the desired level as police commissioner.

**(2)** In determining and assessing the qualifications for appointment to the office of police commissioner, the Mayor shall give full consideration to the depth, breadth, quality and importance of relevant experience, the degree of progression achieved therein, and in educational subjects related thereto, and shall further consider evidence of demonstrated ability to accept and successfully meet increasing responsibilities, as well as evidence respecting excellence of character, professional reputation and employment record.

**(3)** To assure selection of the most qualified individual available for the office, the Mayor may employ any recognized testing agency to evaluate and make recommendations concerning the qualifications of prospective appointees.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

**Approved by the Governor, April 26, 2016.**