Chapter 523

(Senate Bill 818)

AN ACT concerning

State Personnel - Individuals With Disabilities - Hiring Preferences

FOR the purpose of requiring an appointing authority to apply a certain credit on a selection test for certain positions in the State Personnel Management System for an individual with a certain disability; requiring a certain appointing authorities for certain positions in the Judicial, Legislative, and Executive branches authority for a certain position in the Executive Branch of State government to develop a hiring preference for an individual with a certain disability that is equivalent to a certain credit applied on a certain selection test; repealing a requirement that a certain appointing authority apply a certain credit on a selection test for an eligible veteran with a service connected disability; and generally relating to hiring preferences for individuals with disabilities.

BY adding to

Article – State Personnel and Pensions Section 2–310 <u>2–204</u> and 7–207(g) Annotated Code of Maryland (2015 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Personnel and Pensions Section 7–207(a) Annotated Code of Maryland (2015 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – State Personnel and Pensions Section 7–207(c)(2)(ii) Annotated Code of Maryland

(2015 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - State Personnel and Pensions

2-310.2-204.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO APPOINTING AUTHORITIES FOR POSITIONS IN THE JUDICIAL, LEGISLATIVE, AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES AN APPOINTING

AUTHORITY FOR A POSITION IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT, EXCEPT A POSITION IN THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

(B) AN APPOINTING AUTHORITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL DEVELOP A HIRING PREFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES, AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE INTELLECTUAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, SEVERE PHYSICAL DISABILITIES, OR PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES THAT SUBSTANTIALLY LIMIT ONE OR MORE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S MAJOR LIFE ACTIVITIES WITH DISABILITIES, AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO THE CREDIT APPLIED ON A SELECTION TEST UNDER § 7–207(G) OF THIS ARTICLE.

7-207.

or

- (a) A credit under this section shall be applied to an applicant's score on any selection test administered to establish placement on a list of eligible candidates for which the applicant otherwise is qualified and has at least the minimum passing score on a selection test.
- (c) (2) (ii) An appointing authority shall apply a credit of two additional points on any selection test for [:
 - 1. an eligible veteran who has a service connected disability;
 - 2. a former prisoner of war.
- (G) AN APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPLY A CREDIT OF FIVE POINTS ON A SELECTION TEST FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY, AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT WHO HAS AN INTELLECTUAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY, A SEVERE PHYSICAL DISABILITY, OR A PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITY THAT SUBSTANTIALLY LIMITS ONE OR MORE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S MAJOR LIFE ACTIVITIES WITH A DISABILITY, AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.