REGISTRATION AND ELECTION LAWS OF MARYLAND. INCLUDING ALL AMENDMENTS TO AND INCLUDING THE ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 1906

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Registration and election laws of Maryland. Including all amendments to and including the acts of the General assembly of $1906\ by\ Various$

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PUBLISHED BY

The Secretary of State.



ELECTION LAW.

Article 33 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title "Elections," as amended by the Acts of 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906.

SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS.

1. The Governor shall biennially appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, if in session, and if not in session, then the Governor alone shall appoint. in each and every county of the State, and in the city of Baltimore, three persons, who shall constitute and be styled "The Boards of Supervisors of Elections of the respective counties and of said city." Said supervisors shall be residents and voters in their respective counties, or in the city of Baltimore, as the case may be, and two of them shall always be selected from the two leading political parties of the State, one from each said parties. shall be men of high character and integrity, and of recognized business capacity. Before appointing such supervisors of elections the Governor shall request the State Central Committees, representing each of the two leading political parties of the State, in each county and in said city, as the case may be, to designate at least four eligible candidates for the position of supervisor of elections, in their respective counties and in said city, and the Governor shall appoint one of the persons so designated for any particular county or for said city, unless in its judgment, all of said persons shall be unfit or incompetent for said position, in which case he shall file a written statement to that effect with the Secretary of State, setting forth such fact, and the grounds therefor, and thereupon he shall call upon the said committee for the city or county, as the case may be, for another list of six names, and from said list and the original list he shall make the appointment.

 Each Supervisor of Elections of Baltimore city shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars, and each Supervisor of Elections of any of the counties of this State shall receive an annual salary of one hundred dollars, which salary may, in the counties having more than fifteen polling places, be increased by the County Commissioners, in their discretion, to an amount not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars. These salaries and all other expenses incurred by them under this Article shall upon their requisition, be audited by the County Commissioners of their respective counties, or by the Comptroller of Baltimore city, as the case may be, who shall pay the same by warrant, drawn upon the

proper officers of their county or of said city.

Before entering upon the duties of their office said Supervisors of Elections shall each take and subscribe the oath prescribed in the sixth section of the first Article of the Constitution, and also an oath to perform faithfully and honestly the duties imposed upon them by law. These oaths shall be taken before and duly recorded by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the county, or of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, as the case may be. who shall be entitled to a fee of twenty-five cents for each oath, to be paid by the supervisor. Within twenty days after their appointment the Supervisors of Elections for each county and for the city of Baltimore. respectively, shall organize as a board by electing one of their number as president; and they shall hold office for two years, and until their successors are appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed, for good cause shown, by the Governor, who shall have power to so remove them at any time, upon written charges, after notice and hearing.

4. In case of any vacancy in the number of said Supervisors of Elections occurring when the Legislature is not in session, the Governor shall appoint some eligible person to fill such vacancy during the remainder of the term of office of the person originally appointed; but if the latter was appointed as the representative of a political party, then only a person belonging to the same political party shall be eligible as his successor; and it shall be the duty of the Governor, before appointing such successor, to request the State Central Committee representing such political party in the county or city, as the case may be, to designate candidates for such successor, in the same manner as in the case of an original appointment; and if the Governor shall see fit not to appoint any one of the persons so designated, he shall file his

reasons for not doing so, as in the case of an original appointment, and he shall appoint as and from list as pro-

vided in case of an original appointment.

Each Board of Supervisors shall have an office, and shall provide all necessary ballot-boxes and ballots, and all registry books, poll books, tally sheets, blanks and stationery of every description, with printed headings and certificates, necessary and proper for the registry of voters and conduct of elections, and for every incidental purpose connected therewith; and the expenses thereof shall be paid by the county or by the Mayor and the City Council of Baltimore, as the case may be, as above provided. It shall be the duty of the County Commissioners of the several counties, and of the Mayor and City Council of the city of Baltimore, to allow the reasonable use of the public buildings in their respective counties, and in said city, by the election supervisors thereof, and to light and heat the same for such use, and in all proper ways to facilitate them in the discharge of their duties as such supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors of Elections, of the several counties, may have clerks, with the consent of the County Commissioners, for their respective counties, at such compensation as the said County Commissioners may fix. The Supervisors of Elections of the city of Baltimore shall have a clerk at a salary of two thousand dollars and a messenger at a salary of eight hundred dollars per The said clerks, and in the city of Baltimore the said messenger, shall be appointed by the respective boards of supervisors, and shall be removable by them in their discretion. In Baltimore city, the clerks and messenger, with the approval of the supervisors, shall, from time to time, secure such temporary assistance as may be necessary for the proper transaction of the business of the office, but the compensation of such assistance to be paid by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, upon requisition by the said supervisors, shall not exceed the sum of two thousand dollars in any one

year.

JUDGES AND CLERKS OF ELECTION.

 In each year the Board of Supervisors of Elections in the city of Baltimore shall select before the first day of July, four judges of election; and before the fifteenth

day of September, two clerks, for each election precinct in said city, taking two of such judges and one of such clerks from each of the two leading political parties of the State. The Boards of Supervisors in the several counties, in each year in which an election in November is to be held in their respective counties, shall select, before the first day of July, two judges of election, and before the 15th day of September, two more judges of election, and two more clerks for each election district in their respective counties, or, where a district is divided into voting precincts, for each voting precinct in such district, taking one of such judges and one of such clerks, in making each such selection, and for each such voting precinct or district, from each of the two leading political parties of the State, so that such parties shall be equally represented at all times among said election officers. It shall not be necessary to appoint new or special judges or clerks of election for any election not held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, whether general, special, local or municipal, and whether such election be held in the whole State or in any county or part thereof; but the judges and clerks appointed under this Article for the preceding November election shall discharge the duties of said judges and clerks of election. respectively, within their several precincts or districts wherein such election shall be held. Each judge and each clerk must be a legal voter residing in the precinct or district, as the case may be, for which he is selecteda man of good capacity and character-able to speak, read and write the English language, and skilled in the four fundamental rules of arithmetic, not holding any other public office or employment, and not a candidate for any office at the next election; provided, that in the city of Baltimore, whenever all three supervisors shall file in their office a sworn statement, in writing, that suitable persons cannot, in their judgment, be secured in any particular precinct for some of the offices to be filled, such offices may in such case be filled by persons otherwise qualified residing in another precinct of the same ward.

 Each supervisor shall have a veto upon the proposed selection or nomination of any judge or clerk; and if, in any case, in consequence of such veto, the Board of Supervisors cannot agree upon an appointment, then the supervisor or supervisors belonging to the political party entitled to be represented by the judge or clerk in question shall name three men who are eligible, and from these the other supervisor or supervisors shall select such

judge or clerk.

Each person selected as judge or clerk by the Board of Supervisors shall be promptly notified of the fact of his selection, with directions to appear, within the time fixed in the notice, before the board for the purpose of of examination; and if, upon examination, he is found qualified, he shall, unless excused by the supervisors for good cause, be appointed by the supervisors, and shall be bound to serve as such officer for the term of one year. The supervisors shall keep books in which shall be written down the name of all the judges and clerks so appointed. the date and manner of notice to them to appear, and whether or not they appear, and, if appearing, whether they were appointed, rejected or excused, and if rejected or excused, the reasons therefor. No person shall be compelled to serve as judge or clerk for one year after the expiration of his term of service, and all persons so serving shall be exempt from jury duty during the term of their service and for one year thereafter. Any person so selected and notified to appear for examination who shall not appear before the board as required, or shall refuse to serve, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than three hundred dollars. unless it shall appear that he was not qualified for such service by reason of ill-health, infirmity or old age. shall be the duty of the supervisors to notify the State's Attorney of the county or city of Baltimore of the failure, refusal or neglect of any person, and to require the State's Attorney to institute proceedings for such penalty at the next term of Court. The State's Attorney shall receive a fee of fifty dollars for every penalty recovered by him, to be paid out of the sum actually recovered, whether the proceedings for the recovery of such penalty shall be instituted of his own motion or at the instance of said supervisors.

CH. 385, 1898, CHS. 290, 343, 539, 1902, CH. 325, 1904.
10. The judges and clerks appointed by the Board of Supervisors of Elections for Garrett, Queen Anne's.

Dorchester, Howard, Frederick and Washington counties shall not be required to appear before the said board for the purpose of examination nor to be sworn in as required by section 9 of this Article, but the said Board of Supervisors of Elections for said counties, before making appointments of any such judges or clerks, shall thoroughly inform themselves as to the qualifications of the parties appointed and shall not require their attendance before the said board for such examination, and shall appoint only such persons as are known to them to possess the proper qualifications for the position to which they are severally appointed, and the said persons may be sworn in either by said board or by a Justice of the Peace or Notary Public of said counties, and, when sworn in by a justice or notary, shall file with said board a certificate of such qualification.

ACTS OF 1900, CHAPTER 464.

 After the judges and clerks are appointed, the Board of Supervisors shall immediately, and before the first day of August in each year, give notice of the names of all such judges, and shall before the first day of October give notice of the names of all such clerks and in every case the residence and the precincts for which they are selected, by causing the same in the several counties to be published once a week for two successive weeks in two or more newspapers in each county, one of which papers, if possible, shall be of opposite political faith from that of a majority of such supervisors; and if no newspapers be published in such county, then by posting such notice in three of the most public places, in such county, and in Baltimore city, to be published on two successive days in all the daily newspapers in said city which shall be willing to publish the same at their current rates for advertising; said board in appointing judges and clerks, and in the notice thereof, shall designate the persons intended by them to represent the political parties respectively. It shall be the duty of the said board to examine promptly into any complaints which may be preferred to them in writing against the fitness or qualifications of any person so appointed judge or clerk, and to remove any such judge or clerk when upon inquiring they shall find to be unfit or incapable. The board shall forthwith appoint persons in the manner