

## CHAPTER 565.

AN ACT to add three additional sections to Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, entitled "City of Baltimore," sub-title "Charter," to follow immediately after Section 208, and to be known as Sections 208 A, 208 B and 308 c, creating a new Department, to be known as the Department of Legislative Reference.

New sections  
added.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That three additional sections be added to Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, entitled "City of Baltimore," sub-title "Charter," to follow immediately after Section 208, and to be known as Sections 208 A, 208 B and 208 c, creating a new Department, to be known as the Department of Legislative Reference, and to read as follows :

Department of  
legislative  
reference.

Section 208 A. There shall be a Department of Legislative Reference of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore. The head of said department shall consist of a board composed of the Mayor of Baltimore, the City Solicitor, the president of the Johns Hopkins University, the president of the Municipal Art Society, and the president of the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association of Baltimore City ; and the members of the said board shall serve without pay. The said board shall employ a competent statistician as its executive officer to organize and conduct the said department ; and the said executive officer shall hold office from the first day of January, 1907, during good behavior, and shall be subject to removal by said board, or a majority thereof, for incompetence or neglect of duty.

Duty of  
executive  
officer.

Section 208 B. It shall be the duty of said executive officer to investigate and report upon the laws of this and other States and cities relating to any subject upon which he may be requested to so report by the Mayor of Baltimore, any committee of the City Council or the head of any city department ; to accumulate all data obtainable in relation to the practical operation and effect of such laws ; to investigate and collect all available information relating to any matter which is the subject of proposed legislation by the General Assembly of Maryland or the City Council of Baltimore ; to examine Acts, ordinances and records of any State or city, and report the result thereof to the Mayor of

Baltimore, any committee of the City Council, or the head of any city department requesting the same ; to prepare or advise in the preparation of any bill, ordinance or resolution when requested so to do by any member of the City Council ; to preserve and collect all information obtained, carefully indexed and arranged so as to be at all times easily accessible to city officials and open to the inspection of the general public ; to perform such other duties as the said board may prescribe, and to make a full and complete report thereof on or before the first day of February of each and every year ; to cover the work for the previous fiscal year ending December 31st.

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Section 208 c. The Board of Estimates shall provide, in the ordinance of estimates for the year 1907, and annually thereafter, for the payment of the salary of said executive officer, which shall not be less than \$2,000 per annum, and also a sum sufficient to pay all other expenses of the said department of legislative reference. <sup>Salary.</sup>

Approved April 9, 1906.

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#### CHAPTER 566.

AN ACT to modify, with the consent of the Board of Estimates, for a period of years, the Park Tax that may in certain events become payable by the United Railways and Electric Company of Baltimore upon the gross receipts that may in certain events be derived by it from the use by it for its corporate purposes of certain roads proposed to be acquired and opened as public highways by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore in the Annex ; to authorize the Board of Estimates, in its discretion, to grant, in certain events, to said company the franchise or right of using said roads for its corporate purpose in perpetuity, and to modify in certain respects, in relation to said roads, the present powers of the Board of Estimates in the matter of fixing the compensation for franchises or rights in public property.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That in the event that the existing street railway, franchises, easements, interests or rights of the United