

64A and 73B and shall not share in any benefit of any system provided for employees of any county or Baltimore City.

(e) All assessors who became so employed after January 1, 1974, and prior to July 1, 1974, shall be transferred to and become part of the State merit system under Article 64A and the State employees pension system under Article 73B on July 1, 1974, with all of the rights and benefits provided under subsection (d) above.

(f) With respect to every employee described in subsection (a) who elects to remain under a county, city or municipal merit, classification, leave, retirement or health system, the county, city or municipality in question shall make whatever payments or contributions are required to be made by the county, city or municipality to or for the account or on the behalf of the employee, and the State shall periodically reimburse the county, city or municipality for any such payments made, provided that payments or contributions made by the county, city or municipality to the retirement or group insurance program of any such employee shall not be deemed to be salary with respect to the employee.

(g) The schedule of salaries of all assessors provided for in this section shall be that schedule which was in effect July 1, 1973. A sum equivalent to sixty per centum (60%) of the annual salary, according to the respective salary ranges specified shall be paid by the Comptroller for the State of Maryland from general funds to the several counties and the City of Baltimore, such payments to be made to the counties and Baltimore City quarterly.

(h) The number of authorized assessors in each county and Baltimore City as of January 1, 1973 shall not be decreased nor positions transferred prior to July 1, 1976.

3.

(a) All clerical personnel engaged in performing assessment functions shall on and after July 1, 1975 be employees of the State of Maryland, except to the extent otherwise provided herein.

(b) All clerical personnel, who on July 1, 1975 have been so employed by any county or Baltimore City for at least six months prior thereto, may elect, within sixty days after July 1, 1975, to remain thereafter as a member of or subject to the merit, classification or salary system, pension or retirement system, and health benefit system of the counties or Baltimore City and shall not be subject to the applicable system of the State of Maryland.

(c) All clerical personnel who elect under subsection (b) above to remain in a local salary system and subject to a local pension or retirement system, and health benefit system shall be