

INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

CHAPTER NO. 43.

Magisterial Service.

GENERAL ANNOTATION.

ADMINISTRATION.

The administration of this Chapter was vested in the Minister for Justice at the date of its preparation for inclusion.

The present administration may be ascertained by reference to the most recent Determination of Titles and Responsibilities of Ministers made under Section 148(1) of the Constitution.

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CHAPTER No. 43.

Magisterial Service Act.

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 - "Deputy Chief Magistrate"
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CHAPTER NO. 43.

Magisterial Service Act.¹

Being an Act to implement Section 173 (*establishment of the Magisterial Service*) of the Constitution by making provision for and in respect of the Magisterial Service.

PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

1. Interpretation.

In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—

“the Commission” means the Judicial and Legal Services Commission appointed under Section 183 (*establishment of the Commission*) of the Constitution;

“the Conditions of Service Determinations” means any determinations under Section 10;

“Deputy Chief Magistrate” means the Deputy Chief Magistrate appointed under Section 6; (*Added by No. 42 of 1980, s. 1.*)

“the Service” means the Magisterial Service established under Section 173 (*establishment of the Magisterial Service*) of the Constitution;

“this Act” includes the regulations.

PART II.—THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE.

2. Powers, etc., of Chief Magistrate.²

In addition to his other powers, functions, duties and responsibilities under this Act or any other law, the Chief Magistrate—

(a) is responsible to the Commission for the efficient functioning and operation of the Service; and

(b) has such powers, functions, duties and responsibilities in relation to the Service (including disciplinary powers over magistrates) as are conferred or imposed on him by the Conditions of Service Determinations; and

(c) shall carry out any direction or instruction by the Commission in relation to the Service; and

(d) for the purposes of the *Public Service Act* and any other law, shall, in respect of the administrative, legal and court staff (other than magistrates) who are officers or employees of the Public Service, be deemed to be the Departmental Head within the meaning of that Act; and

(e) is responsible for the posting of magistrates; and

(f) is responsible for the allocation of duties as between magistrates posted to the same place; and

(g) as directed by the Commission, shall submit to the Commission reports on the Service and on individual magistrates.

¹The original Act was made by the National Constituent Assembly as a Provisional Act of the Parliament. See Constitution, Section 266(2).

²See, also, Constitution, Section 175(4).

3. Recommendations as to court buildings, etc.

The Chief Magistrate may advise and make recommendations to the Commission on any matters related to design, forward planning, allocation and budgeting with regard to court buildings and facilities.

4. Delegation.

The Chief Magistrate may, by instrument, delegate to any person all or any of his powers and functions under this Act or any other law (except this power of delegation and any powers and functions delegated to him by the Commission).

PART III.—MAGISTRATES.

5. Grades of magistrate.

There shall be within the Service a Deputy Chief Magistrate and five grades of magistrate, namely —

- Grade I.—Local Court Magistrate; and
- Grade II.—Senior Local Court Magistrate; and
- Grade III.—District Court Magistrate; and
- Grade IV.—Senior District Court Magistrate; and
- Grade V.—Principal Magistrate.

(Amended by No. 42 of 1980, s. 2.)

6. Appointment.

(1) Subject to this Act, the Commission may appoint—

- (a) a person to be the Deputy Chief Magistrate; and
- (b) persons to be magistrates.

(2) A person shall not be appointed as Deputy Chief Magistrate unless he is qualified for appointment as a Magistrate Grade V.

(Replaced by No. 42 of 1980, s. 3.)

7. Qualifications of magistrates.

(1) Subject to Subsection (2), the qualifications for appointment or promotion to each grade of magistrate are as determined by the Commission, not being less than any qualifications prescribed by or under Act.

(2) A person shall not be appointed as a magistrate unless—

- (a) he provides evidence to the satisfaction of the Commission as to—
 - (i) his health and physical fitness; and
 - (ii) his possession of the necessary qualifications; and
 - (iii) his age; and
 - (iv) his good character; and
- (b) he makes the Judicial Declaration.

7A. Deputy Chief Magistrate and Principal Magistrates.

In addition to his other powers, functions, duties and responsibilities, the Deputy Chief Magistrate and each Principal Magistrate has such non-judicial powers, functions, duties and responsibilities as are—

- (a) delegated to him by the Commission or the Chief Magistrate; and
- (b) directed by the Chief Magistrate.

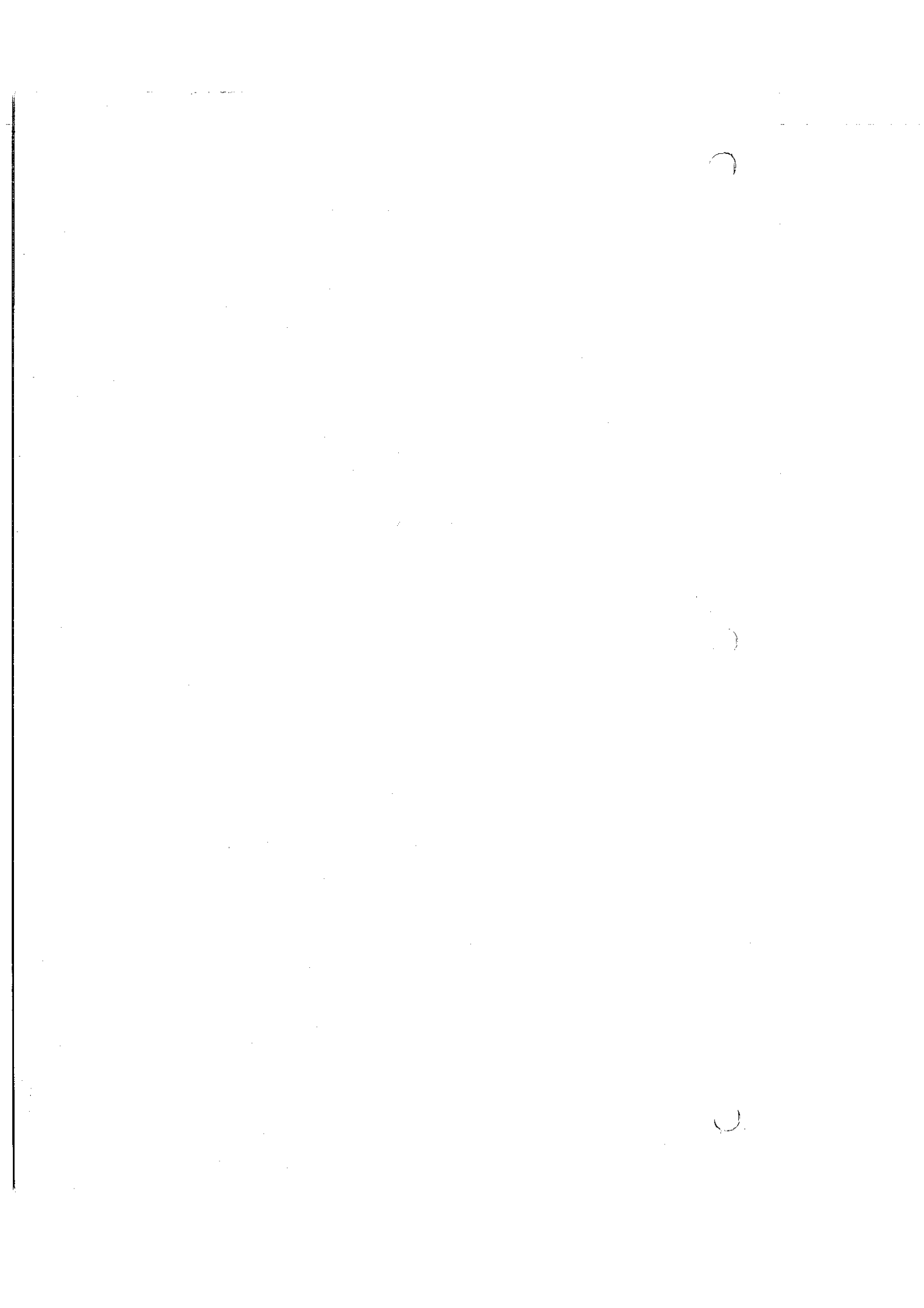
(Added by No. 42 of 1980, s. 4.)

8. Senior Magistrates.

(1) The Commission shall appoint a magistrate in each province to be the Senior Magistrate for that province.

(2) The Senior Magistrate for a province has, in addition to his other powers, functions, duties and responsibilities, such non-judicial powers, functions, duties and responsibilities, in and in relation to the province for which he is appointed, as are—

- (a) conferred or imposed on him by the Conditions of Service Determinations; or
- (b) delegated to him by the Commission or the Chief Magistrate; or
- (c) directed by the Chief Magistrate.



9. Jurisdiction, etc.

(1) The jurisdiction, powers, functions, duties and responsibilities of each grade of magistrate are as determined by or under Act.

(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, where any jurisdiction, power, function, duty or responsibility is conferred or imposed by or under Act on magistrates of a particular grade it shall be deemed also to have been conferred or imposed on magistrates of any higher grade.

(3) The Chief Magistrate and the Deputy Chief Magistrate have the same jurisdiction as the highest grade of magistrate. (*Amended by No. 42 of 1980, s. 5.*)

10. Conditions of service.

(1) The rates of salaries and allowances and the other conditions of service of the Deputy Chief Magistrate and of magistrates, including—

- (a) the obligations of membership of the Service; and
- (b) internal administration of the Service; and
- (c) discipline; and
- (d) leave (including furlough); and
- (e) retirement; and
- (f) fares and removal expenses; and
- (g) housing,

are as determined by the Commission after consultation with the Public Services Commission. (*Amended by No. 42 of 1980, s. 6.*)

(2) The *Public Officers Superannuation Act* applies to and in relation to magistrates as though they were officers of the Public Service.

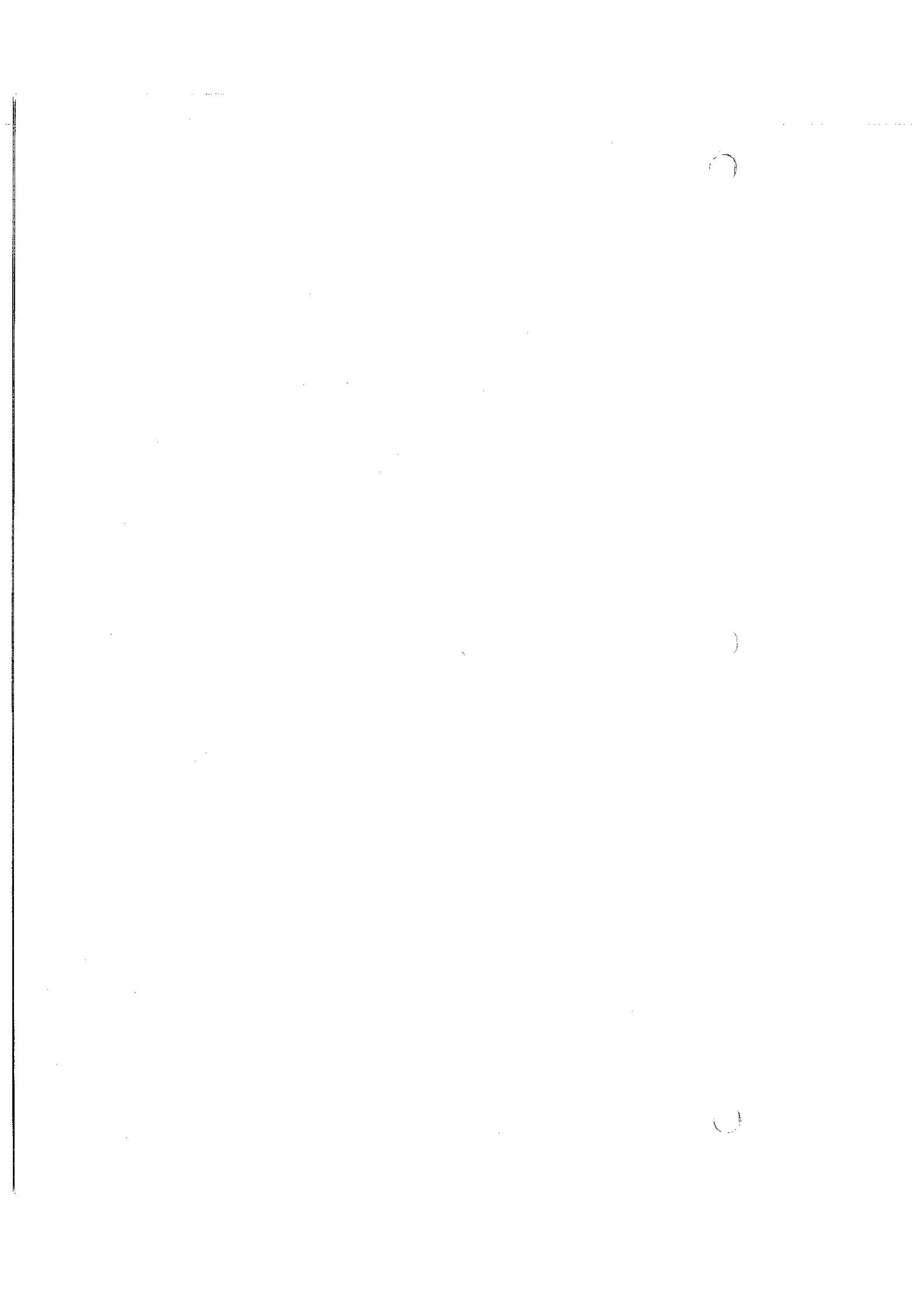
11. Other determinations.

The Commission may make determinations in relation to any matters that by this Act are required or permitted to be determined, or that are necessary or convenient to be determined for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

PART IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

12. Regulations.

The Head of State, acting on advice, may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all matters that by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.



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APPENDIX.

SOURCE OF THE MAGISTERIAL SERVICE ACT.

Part A.—Previous Legislation.

Magisterial Service Act 1975 (No. 97 of 1975)

as amended by—

Magisterial Service (Amendment) Act 1980 (No. 42 of 1980).

Part B.—Cross References.

Section, etc., in Revised Edition.	Previous References ¹ .	Section, etc., in Revised Edition.	Previous References ¹ .
1	1	7A	7A
2	2	8	8
3	3	9	9
4	4	10	10
5	5	11	11
6	6	12	12
7	7		

¹Unless otherwise indicated, references are to the Act set out in Part A.

