

of Carroll County at the general election to be held in November 1998 or, if a special election is held throughout Carroll County prior to the general election held in November 1998, at that special election. The cost of the election, if any, shall be paid by the county governing body. The county governing body and the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Carroll County shall do those things necessary and proper to provide for and hold the referendum required by this section. There shall be printed on the ballots or ballot labels to be used at the election the title "Board of County Commissioners - Expansion to Five Commissioners" and underneath the title, on separate lines, options for a voter to select "For Increasing Size of the Board" or "Against Increasing Size of the Board". If a majority of the votes cast on the question are "For Increasing Size of the Board", the provisions of this Act shall become effective for the election of the Board of County Commissioners in 1998 if this question appears on the ballot at a special election held on or before June 1, 1998. If this question appears on a ballot at an election held after June 1, 1998, and a majority of the votes cast on the question are "For Increasing Size of the Board", the provisions of this Act shall become effective for the election of the Board of County Commissioners in 2002. If a majority of the votes cast on the question are "Against Increasing Size of the Board", the provisions of this Act are of no effect and null and void.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding Section 2 of this Act, if the majority of voters of Carroll County elect to adopt home rule under the provisions of Article XI-A or Article XI-F of the Constitution of Maryland at the same election when the question under Section 2 of this Act appears on the ballot, the provisions of this Act, and the results of any election conducted pursuant to this Act, are void and of no effect.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not be construed to have any effect on the County Commissioners of Carroll County serving on the effective date of this Act, but shall be applied, in accordance with Section 2 of this Act, to the election of the Board of County Commissioners in 1998 or 2002.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Section 2 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum required by Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 1997.

Approved May 8, 1997.

CHAPTER 525

(House Bill 1175)

AN ACT concerning

Highways - Sale of Land Not Needed for Public Purposes - Promotion of Economic Development

FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Highway Administration, subject to approval by the Board of Public Works, to convey surplus land, subject to certain conditions, if the conveyance will promote economic development; requiring the