

CHAPTER 239.

AN ACT to ascertain and define the powers and duties of County Commissioners. Passed May 21, 1853.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the county commissioners of each county in this State, are hereby constituted and declared to be a corporation and body politic, and shall have power to appoint judges of elections, collectors of taxes, trustees of the poor, a clerk to their board and all other officers, agents and servants, required for county purposes, not otherwise provided for by law, or by the constitution; they shall have charge of and control over the property owned by the county, and over county roads and bridges. Declared to be a body politic.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That it shall be their duty to levy all needful taxes on the assessable property within the county, liable to taxation, and to provide for collecting the same, which levy may be made in whole or in part by estimate, and they shall provide for the support of the courts, compensate jurors and county witnesses, and pay and discharge all claims on or against the county which have been expressly or impliedly authorized by law. Duty of commissioners.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the county commissioners shall have all other powers, and perform all other duties hereafter granted or prescribed by law; *Provided,* such powers and duties shall be uniform throughout the State, and are not contrary to the constitution. To perform all duties prescribed by law
Proviso.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That the county commissioners shall meet in their respective counties within sixty days after their election, and qualify as such, and thereafter meet at least once a quarter; and as much oftener as the necessities of the county may in their judgment require; *Provided, however,* that the meeting to make the annual levy of taxes shall be held previous to the first day of July in each and every year. Meetings.
Proviso.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted,* That this act shall take effect from and after the day preceding the first Wednesday in November next. To take effect