

after giving at least ten days' previous notice thereof, posted in five or more public places in said town, at which said special election the qualified voters of Mt. Airy shall determine by ballot whether the bonds hereinbefore provided for shall be issued or not; and at which said election there shall be written or printed on the ballots of said voters the words "For issue of bonds," or "Against issue of bonds;" and if a majority of the ballots cast shall contain the words "For issue of bonds," then this act shall become operative and binding, but if a majority of said ballots shall contain the words "Against the issue of bonds," then this act shall be void and of no effect; and the judges of said municipal election, or a majority of them, shall return to the Mayor of said town the number of ballots cast "For issue of bonds," and "Against issue of bonds," respectively, and the said Mayor shall announce the result thereof.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect Effective. from the date of its passage.

Approved March 23d, 1896.

CHAPTER 73.

AN ACT to amend Article twenty-seven of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Crimes and Punishments," by adding thereto an additional section to follow immediately after section forty-seven, and to be numbered "forty-seven A," under the sub-title "Desertion of Wife or Child."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Article twenty-seven of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Crimes and Punishments," be and the same is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section, to follow immediately after section forty-seven, and to be numbered "forty-seven A," under the sub-title "Desertion of Wife or Child." New section.

47 A. Any person who shall without just cause desert or wilfully neglect to provide for the support and maintenance of his wife or minor child, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon indictment and conviction in any court of the State having criminal jurisdiction, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars or be imprisoned in the Maryland House of Correction, not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court. Desertion of wife or child.