

## CHAPTER 518.

AN ACT regulating the holding of camp meetings in Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, Kent and Worcester Counties, providing for the issuing of permits therefor, and prescribing penalties for the violations of the same.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That it shall be unlawful for any person, persons, association or organization of any kind whatsoever to hold any camp meeting or bush meeting within the limits of Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, Kent and Worcester Counties without first making application in writing at least fifteen days prior to the date of beginning of such camp meeting or bush meeting, and obtaining a permit therefor from the County Commissioners of the respective Counties for the holding of such camp meeting or bush meeting therein. That such application for a permit, as aforesaid, shall be accompanied by a petition in writing, signed by at least twenty-five tax payers, each of whom shall reside within three miles of the place where such camp meeting or bush meeting is to be held, and such petition shall have annexed thereto as a part thereof an affidavit to the effect that each of the said petitioners are bona fide tax payers and of their residences within three miles of said place of such proposed meeting. And whenever the County Commissioners of any of the respective Counties shall have any reasonable grounds for believing that any lawlessness or disorder will occur, at said camp meeting or bush meeting, they shall refuse to grant such permit, and if, after issuing any permit to hold any camp meeting or bush meeting, there shall be any lawlessness or disorder reported to said County Commissioners, it shall be the duty of said officials to investigate or have investigated by the Sheriff or other officer of said County, the matter, and upon proof of said lawlessness or disorder they shall forthwith revoke said permit, and it shall be the duty of the Sheriff, or other officer of the respective Counties, to enforce the provisions of this Act. Any person or persons, or the officers of any Association or organization, violating the provisions of this Act, shall, upon conviction thereof before any Justice of the Peace of the respective Counties, be fined not less than Twenty-five Dollars nor more than One Hundred Dollars for each and every offense; and upon failure to pay said fine or cost shall stand committed to the County Jail of the County wherein such conviction shall occur for a period of thirty days. Any and all fines recovered for any