

istrates in a few convenient centers and to provide for their compensation by salaries instead of fees, now therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a new sub-title and twenty-two new sections be and they are hereby added to Article 52 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, 1935 Supplement, title "Justices of the Peace", to be known as Sections 91 to 112, inclusive, to follow immediately after Section 90 of said Article, said new Sections to be under the new sub-title "Trial Magistrates System", and to read as follows:

TRIAL MAGISTRATES SYSTEM

91. *Appointment.* The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint for every county of the State one justice of the peace for each of the election districts thereof, and such number of justices of the peace at large in the several counties, to be designated "Trial Magistrates", as is hereinafter specified in Section 98.

92. *Jurisdiction.* The authority, powers and civil and criminal jurisdiction of each of the justices of the peace appointed under this Act shall, except as modified by this Act, be such as may now be vested in any justice of the peace by law applicable to the counties for which they are respectively appointed, or to municipal corporations within their respective limits, or such as may hereafter be prescribed by law, but shall not include the jurisdiction which may be specially conferred by law in the same county upon a justice of the peace for juvenile cases.

Trial magistrates shall have and possess power to suspend sentence in any case within their jurisdiction, provided that such suspension is made at the trial of the case and not after judgment has been pronounced.

In cases of commitment to jail in default of payment of fine, the trial magistrates shall have the power, upon suitable written order to the sheriff or other custodian, to release the prisoners at any time after commitment upon payment of the fine and costs imposed, provided however that a credit of one dollar for each day of imprisonment actually served shall be deducted from the payments herein specified. Records shall be kept by the magistrates of such releases and credits, and the fines and costs so received shall be remitted as in the case of fines and costs imposed and collected as otherwise provided in this Act. The sheriffs or other custodian of prisoners shall have no power or authority to release prisoners committed by trial magistrates prior to the expiration of their terms as specified in the commitment papers, except upon the written