

180. Each County Supervisor of Assessments shall, in addition to his other duties, act as chief assessor in his particular county, with such additional duties as the State Tax Commission shall determine and designate. On or before January first, 1944, each of the several Boards of County Commissioners in this State shall appoint from among the residents of the respective Counties such number of assessors as may be found necessary to execute a continuing method of assessment which number shall be fixed by the County Commissioners, after consultation with the State Tax Commission, but if the County Commissioners shall find that in any County the work can be performed by the Supervisor alone, then no assessors shall be appointed; provided however, that in Harford County the two assessors in office on the effective date of this Act shall constitute the first assessors holding positions under the provisions of this Act, without the necessity of examination or appointment. The annual salary of each assessor shall be fixed by the County Commissioners, after consultation with the State Tax Commission. No appointment shall be made, however, except in the following manner:

The County Commissioners shall submit to the State Tax Commission from the applicants for each position to be filled, a list of not less than three applicants for each position. The State Tax Commission shall interview, examine and grade said applicants, in order to determine their relative qualifications for the position or positions to be filled, and shall certify the list of applicants and their respective grades to the County Commissioners, who shall appoint an assessor for each position from the said list. Upon appointment, each assessor shall perform his duties under the direction of the Supervisor of Assessments, and shall hold his position during good behavior, subject only to removal by the State Tax Commission, after hearing, for incompetency or other cause. In the event of the resignation, death or removal of any assessor, the vacancy shall be filled by the County Commissioners in the manner hereinbefore set forth, within 60 days from the date when the vacancy occurs. The annual salaries of the County Assessors and all other expenses incident to local assessment shall be levied for and paid monthly by the several Boards of County Commissioners. Nothing herein shall affect the powers and duties of the Bureau of Assessments in Baltimore City, as prescribed by local law and ordinance. Provided that in Washington County there shall be two assessors, who shall be selected in conformity with the provisions of this Section, except that one of such assessors shall be affiliated with each of the major political parties in the County, and such assessors shall each re-