

it, to grade, construct, reconstruct, pave or otherwise improve any street, sidewalk, alley, curb, curb and gutter and public highway, or parts thereof, at such time and to such extent and of such materials and in such manner as shall be provided by ordinance and to lay water mains and sewers in said town and to pay the costs of all such work and assess said cost, or any part thereof, against the abutting property as hereinafter provided in this section.

Whenever a petition in writing, duly signed by the owners of at least twenty per cent of the front footage of all the property abutting upon any such proposed public improvement, shall be filed with the Council praying for the construction of any public improvement herein mentioned, the Council shall, after having given the notice prescribed in the next following section, hold a public hearing upon the matter of such petition, and shall as soon thereafter as may be convenient, render its decision thereon granting or denying the said application, as in its judgment the public health, safety or comfort may require; provided, however, that in case the Council shall grant such petition, it shall thereupon proceed in all respects in the manner and in the form hereinafter provided in this section.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Maryland, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved June 1, 1948.

CHAPTER 67

(House Bill 45)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 495 and 690 of Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland and Baltimore City Charter (1938 Edition), title "Baltimore City", sub-titles "Criers, Bailiffs, Watchmen and Stenographers" and "Jurors", as said sections were amended by Chapter 668 of the Acts of 1945, increasing the compensation of the Court Stenographers for the several Courts of Baltimore City and the stenographer assigned to the Grand Jury of said city.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Sections 495 and 690 of Article 4 of the Code of