

points along public streets or highways in said City, as may be directed by the passenger or passengers so being transported; provided that nothing in this sub-title shall be construed to include as taxicab a motor vehicle operated, with the approval of the Public Service Commission of Maryland, on fixed routes and schedules.

551. In order to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Westminster and other persons who may use taxicab facilities therein, the Common Council of Westminster is hereby authorized and empowered by ordinance to fix requirements for the ownership and operation of taxicabs in the corporate limits of Westminster and to provide for inspection and licensing of taxicabs, their owners and operators. The regulation herein provided for the taxicab industry in Westminster shall be in addition to any regulation by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of Maryland or the Public Service Commission of Maryland. Any person, firm or corporation subject to this sub-title who shall be dissatisfied with any ordinance of the Common Council of Westminster, enacted pursuant to the authority herein conferred, may commence any action in the Circuit Court for Carroll County against said Council to vacate and set aside any such ordinance on the ground that the regulation, practice, act or service established by such ordinance is unreasonable or unlawful. The decision of the Circuit Court shall be appealable to the Court of Appeals of Maryland by either party.

552. Any person, firm or corporation violating any ordinance promulgated under the authority of this sub-title, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$250.00 for each offense. In addition, the Common Council of Westminster, upon proof of any violation of any ordinance promulgated under this sub-title, shall have authority to revoke or suspend any license issued under the authority thereof after according reasonable opportunity to the licensee to be heard in his, her or its defense.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1949.

Approved April 29, 1949.