

CHAPTER 455

(Senate Bill 316)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 177 of Article 1 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1930 Edition), title "Allegany County", sub-title "Fire Escapes", as said section was amended by Chapter 955 of the Acts of 1943, relating to fire escapes and similar structures and equipment on certain buildings in Allegany County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 177 of Article 1 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1930 Edition), title "Allegany County", sub-title "Fire Escapes", as said section was amended by Chapter 955 of the Acts of 1943, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

177. (a) Insofar as they deem necessary for the protection of the public from fire or fire hazards, the County Commissioners of Allegany County shall, under uniform and reasonable rules and regulations which they are hereby empowered to issue, require fire escapes, fire and emergency exists and fire fighting equipment in or upon all public buildings in Allegany County. Irrespective of any such rules and regulations, all owners of public buildings, three stories or more in height in Allegany County, Maryland, shall on or before January 1, 1950, equip the same with fire escapes, fire tower, fire tunnel, fire chute, or escapes so designed and constructed as to offer a means of egress from every floor thereof above the second floor, provided that nothing in this Section shall apply to Federal, County, or Municipal buildings.

(b) Every door or other opening offering a means of egress to such escape shall be plainly marked and labeled with a sign upon which shall be the word "exit."

(c) Any person convicted by a Trial Magistrate of Allegany County or by the Circuit Court for Allegany County of violating this section or any rules or regulations issued hereunder shall be fined upon conviction thereof not less than ten dollars, nor more than fifty dollars, for each day when such fire escapes are not erected or such rules and regulations are not complied with.

(d) Any person convicted before a Trial Magistrate for violating this section shall have the right of appeal to the Circuit Court for Allegany County.