

CHAPTER 308.

Passed Mar. 10, 1856. AN ACT to authorise the County Commissioners of the several Counties in this State to build bridges in their respective counties, and to levy for the cost thereof.

County Commissioners authorised to build and repair bridges. SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be lawful for the county commissioners of the several counties of this State to build and repair bridges in their respective counties, and to levy upon the property of the county therefor, as hereinafter provided.

Application to be made to commissioners SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That all applications for building or repairing bridges shall be made by petition to the county commissioners, and when any person or persons intend to apply for building or repairing any bridge or bridges, they shall first give notice in the same manner, and for the same length of time, that persons are now required by law to give notice of their intention to apply for opening or closing roads, for the purpose of giving those who may be opposed to the building or repairing of said bridge or bridges an opportunity to make their objections by counter petition; and when the county commissioners shall have heard the reasons and evidences, both for and against the building or repairing of said bridge or bridges, they shall determine the case in such manner as in their judgment will best promote the public convenience.

Authorised to levy. SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That whenever the county commissioners shall have determined to build or repair any bridge or bridges, they shall, at their usual time for levying taxes, levy on the assessable property of the county in which such bridge or bridges are to be built or repaired, a sum of money sufficient to pay for the said bridge or bridges, and the embankments and abutments thereunto belonging.

Bridges to be built or repaired by contract. SEC. 4. *And be it enacted,* That all bridges, built or repaired under this act, shall be built or repaired by contract; for which purpose the county commissioners shall advertise in one or more newspaper papers; and if there shall be no newspaper published in said county or counties, then by such public notice as the county commissioners shall deem most advisable, setting forth the place where said bridge is to be built or repaired, with full specifications of the

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