

3.

(5) Optional membership of certain officials.—Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this article, membership in the retirement system shall be optional with any class of elected officials, or with any class of officials appointed for fixed terms ; *or with any desk officer or employee of either House of the General Assembly who receives an annual salary as his compensation for such employment, who shall be deemed to be an appointed official within the application of this sub-section.* Such elected or appointed officials now in office may become members of the employees' retirement system by making application for such membership within six months after July 1, [1956] 1957. All officials elected or appointed on or after July 1, [1956] 1957, may become members of the system upon making application therefor within six months after their election or appointment. All such officials shall be entitled to credit for prior service rendered by them to the State, including service rendered prior to the establishment of the employees' retirement system. If any such official is entitled to a pension under the provisions of any other law, such official shall be deemed to have waived the benefits thereof by accepting the payment of benefits under this article.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1957.

Approved March 21, 1957.

 CHAPTER 314

(Senate Bill 491)

AN ACT to add new Section 16A to Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Justices of the Peace", sub-title "Criminal Jurisdiction", said new section to follow immediately after Section 16 thereof, providing that Trial Magistrates in Talbot County shall have authority to suspend sentences generally or upon condition and relating generally to procedure for such suspension.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 16A be and it is hereby added to Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Justices of the Peace", sub-title "Criminal Jurisdiction", said new section to follow immediately after Section 16 thereof, and to read as follows:

16A. *In Talbot County all Trial Magistrates shall have and possess the power and authority to suspend sentence or costs or both sentence and costs either generally or upon condition for a definite time, in any case within their jurisdiction, provided that such suspension is made at the trial of the case and not after judg-*

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.