

CHAPTER 377

(Senate Bill 242)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 108 (12) of Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1960 Supplement), title "Justices of the Peace", sub-title "Trial Magistrates System", amending the laws concerning trial magistrates and the present office of substitute trial magistrate in Harford County in order to provide for the status, duties and salaries of the present substitute trial ~~magistrates~~. MAGISTRATE.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 108 (12) of Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1960 Supplement), title "Justices of the Peace", sub-title "Trial Magistrates System", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

108.

(12) Harford County.—There shall be five trial magistrates, one of whom shall sit at Bel Air, who shall receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00); one each at Havre de Grace, Aberdeen, Darlington, and the Abingdon and Edgewood area, who shall receive annual salaries of thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00). In addition, there shall be appointed a [substitute] trial magistrate *at large* for Harford County, who shall sit in Bel Air [when not otherwise substituting,], *who shall have full powers of original jurisdiction as an alternate trial magistrate, who shall be available as a substitute trial magistrate to sit as and where needed, and who shall be paid an annual salary of [two] three thousand dollars [(\$2,000.00)] (\$3,000.00);* provided that all of said magistrates may sit from time to time at other locations in the county than those regularly designated. In the absence of the [substitute] magistrate *at large* it shall be the duty of any of the aforesaid trial magistrates to act as substitute magistrates either voluntarily or at the request of the chief magistrate of the People's Court of Harford County. Said trial magistrates shall be designated and shall constitute the People's Court of Harford County and shall be known as the trial magistrates of the People's Court. The Governor shall designate one of such magistrates as the chief trial magistrate of the People's Court of Harford County, whose duty it shall be to call at least two meetings of such magistrates annually in April and November for the purpose of promoting an orderly and uniform system of justice and of adopting a convenient hearing schedule. The magistrates of the People's Court appointed for Bel Air and the chief magistrate designated by the Governor shall be persons who have been admitted to the practice of law in Harford County. The other magistrates authorized by this section shall be members of the Harford County bar if in the judgment of the Governor members qualified by experience and temperament are conveniently available for such service. All magistrates in office on January 1, 1960, shall continue in office, and be eligible for reappointment.

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.