

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 3 (5) of Article 73B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1960 Supplement), title "Pensions", sub-title "In General", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

3.

(5) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this article, membership in the Retirement System shall be optional with any class of officials elected or 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 subsection. All officials elected or appointed for fixed terms on or after July 1, 1957, may become members of the system upon making application therefor [within twelve months] *at any time* after their election or appointment AND BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE TERMS. All such officials shall be entitled to credit for prior service rendered by them to the State, or its political sub-divisions, 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, 1961.

Approved February 27, 1961.

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## CHAPTER 108

(House Bill 130)

AN ACT to authorize and empower the Board of County Commissioners of Wicomico County to levy and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) during the fiscal year 1961-62 to be paid to the Wicomico War Memorial Builders, Inc. and to be paid by said Wicomico War Memorial Builders, Inc. as a payment on a Deed of Trust payable to E. Dale Adkins, Jr., Stanley G. Robins and John W. T. Webb, Trustees, dated November 3, 1959 from the Wicomico War Memorial Builders, Inc. and recorded among the Land Records for Wicomico County, Maryland, in Liber J.W.T.S. No. 488, Folio 125, which said Deed of Trust is a lien on the land and the Wicomico Youth and Civic Center located on Glen Avenue near Salisbury, Maryland.

WHEREAS, Wicomico War Memorial Builders, Inc., in the year 1959 constructed and Youth and Civic Center (hereinafter called "Center") in Wicomico County, Maryland, as a memorial to the citizens of said County who have served in the Armed Forces in times of war, at a cost of approximately Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000.00), plus the value of the land on which said Center is constructed, which is estimated to be more than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00), and