

same time as other absentee ballots, at anytime after the closing of the polls.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 256 (a) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1962 Supplement), title "Elections," subtitle "Servicemen's Absentee Voting," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

256.

(a) Procedure.—**[**Immediately after the completion of the canvass of the votes cast at the regular voting places in this State at any election,**]** *At any time after the closing of the polls and not later than the canvass of the votes cast at the regular voting places in this State at any election,* the several boards shall meet at the usual place for holding the circuit court for the county or in Baltimore City at the offices of the supervisors of elections and shall there first register all absentee residents entitled thereto and not previously registered, and such registration shall be deemed to have been made on the day of said election and prior to the casting of their votes by such absentee residents. Immediately after completing such registration, said several boards shall proceed to count, certify and canvass the ballots contained in the ballot envelopes, received by them from the Secretary of State as hereinbefore provided, at any time prior to the closing of the polls on election day. Whenever any board shall determine from proof or investigation that any person who has marked and transmitted an absentee ballot, whether under act of Congress or the provisions of this subtitle, has died before election day, said board shall not count the ballot of said deceased voter, but it shall be preserved by said board for six months and may then be destroyed, unless prior to that time the board be ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction to keep the same for any longer period. Unless at or prior to the time of such counting and canvassing the board shall have determined that the absentee resident who marked a ballot had died before election day, said ballot shall be counted, and the fact that said absentee resident may later be shown to have been actually dead on election day shall not invalidate said ballot or said election. If said board determines that said absentee resident voted in person at said election, his absentee ballot shall not be counted.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1963.

Approved April 30, 1963.

CHAPTER 690
(House Bill 943)

AN ACT to authorize and empower the County Commissioners of Washington County to borrow an amount not to exceed Nine Million Dollars (\$9,000,000.00) and to issue notes and/or bonds therefor, for the purpose of constructing new schools and making addi-