

County Councils to enact local laws designed to prevent conflicts of interest of county officers including members of the County Council, and to govern the conduct and actions of all county officers in the performance of their public duties and to provide penalties, including removal from office, for violations of any such laws or the regulations adopted thereunder.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 5 (Q) of Article 25A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), titled "Chartered Counties of Maryland," subtitle "Express Powers," heading "County Officers," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:*

5. (Q)

To provide for the appointment and removal of all county officers except those whose appointment or election is provided for by the Constitution or Public General Law, and to establish a merit system, if deemed desirable, in connection with the appointment of all county officials and employees not elected or appointed under the Constitution and the Public General Laws; to fix the qualifications and term of office of such county executive authority as may be established, and to fix its compensation [.] ; *provided that the county council may enact local laws designed to prevent conflicts between the private interests and public duties of any county officers, including members of the County Council, and to govern the conduct and actions of all such county officers in the performance of their public duties, and to provide for penalties, including removal from office, for violation of any such laws or the regulations adopted thereunder.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act is hereby declared to be an acute emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public welfare and for the promotion of the general welfare of the public, and having been passed by a yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Maryland, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.*

Approved March 13, 1964.

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CHAPTER 15

(House Bill 298)

AN ACT authorizing and empowering the City of Baltimore to use monies distributed to it from the Gasoline Tax Fund and the Motor Vehicle Revenue Fund for purposes of the operation of the Traffic Division of the Police Department of Baltimore City, limiting said authorization to the 1965 fiscal year of the State of Maryland and declaring this Act to be an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE CITY HAS REQUESTED AUTHORITY TO USE A SUM NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000)