

CHAPTER 160

(House Bill 10)

AN ACT to add new Sections 167A to 167E, inclusive, to Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "County Commissioners", to follow immediately after Section 167 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "Shore Erosion Control Districts", to authorize the creation of shore erosion control districts out of property located on any waters in the State, establishing the procedure for creating districts, providing for financing erosion control projects in such districts and for construction of erosion projects, and relating to control of erosion of land in the State.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Sections 167A to 167E, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "County Commissioners" to follow immediately after Section 167 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "Shore Erosion Control Districts", all to read as follows:

Shore Erosion Control Districts

167A.

The property in any one or more counties and/or Baltimore City abutting or bordering upon any body of natural or artificial water in the State, the Chesapeake Bay, and any river or stream OR BODY OF WATER IN THIS STATE, whether tidal or non-tidal, may be formed into a shore erosion control district under the provisions of this subtitle.

167B.

(a) The owners of seventy-five percentum (75%) of any property or seventy-five percentum (75%) of the owners of any property may present a written petition to the county commissioners of any one or more counties wherein the property lies requesting the creation of a district. The petition shall describe the boundaries of the property proposed to be created as a district. Upon receiving a petition the county commissioners shall refer the petition to the ~~Division~~ SECTION of Shore Erosion Control of the Department of Tidewater Fisheries. The ~~Division~~ SECTION shall review the petition and submit its report to the county commissioners containing its recommendation on the feasibility and need for a district. The report shall include the area to be included within the district, plans for erosion control and estimated costs for the erosion control projects recommended.

(b) The county commissioners are authorized upon receipt of the report to establish the district and to designate the area included within the district.

167C.

The county commissioners are authorized and empowered to act as the district council for the district and, in carrying out the provisions of this subtitle, to use all the applicable power and authority vested in them by existing law and by this subtitle.