- (b) The County Solicitor shall be the legal advisor to the County Commissioners. He shall, upon request, give advice and opinions upon any legal matter affecting the interest of the County. All deeds, bonds, contracts, releases or other instruments involving the County shall, before execution or delivery, be submitted to the County Solicitor and shall be approved by him in writing as to their form and legal sufficiency. He shall appear in and prosecute or defend all civil matters in which the County is a party. He shall have such additional duties as the County Commissioners may from time to time assign him.
- (c) The County Solicitor shall receive an annual salary to be determined by the County Commissioners from time to time; but such salary shall not exceed \$16,000 per annum. The County Solicitor shall not engage in the private practice of law. The County Commissioners shall supply him with such office space and secretarial assistance as may be necessary for the discharge of his office. They shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the office of County Solicitor caused by resignation, death or otherwise, and may at any time in their discretion discharge and appoint a new County Solicitor for Harford County.
- SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect January 1, 1967.

Approved May 6, 1966.

CHAPTER 644

(House Bill 482)

AN ACT to add a new Section 9D to Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Merit System," to follow immediately after Section 9C thereof, and to be under the new subtitle "Deputy clerks of court and employees of the clerk of court's office in Washington County," to include deputies or assistant clerks of courts in Washington County and employees of the Washington County Circuit Court's office, except the Clerk of Court, in the State Merit System.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Section 9D be and it is hereby added to Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Merit System," to follow immediately after Section 9C thereof, and to be under the new subtitle "Deputy clerks of court and employees of the clerk of court's office in Washington County," and to read as follows:

Deputy clerks of court and employees of Clerk of Court's office in Washington County.

9D.

All deputy or assistant clerks of court and all employees of the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court for Washington County, except the Clerk of Court himself, are concluded within the provisions of