

actually sitting as a substitute judge as hereinafter provided. All compensation as provided herein shall be paid by the county council, [who] *which* is hereby authorized and directed to levy to pay such salaries [of] *or* such additional salaries as they may determine.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1966.

Approved April 29, 1966.

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CHAPTER 470

(House Bill 775)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 3(a), (f) ~~and~~, (r) AND (W) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1965 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," to make a general grant of powers available to the County Commissioners of Dorchester County, INCLUDING A SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM PAYMENTS TO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES IN THE COUNTY but to exclude the county from the effect of two of these powers relating to merit systems for county employees and the manner of adopting any of the powers granted by this act.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Sections 3(a), (f) ~~and~~, (r) AND (W) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1965 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

3.

(a) The county commissioners of each county in this State, except Worcester, Kent, Caroline, (except as hereinbelow provided), Allegany, except as specifically provided in subsection (s), Prince George's, Washington, Somerset, [Dorchester,] Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Cecil, Charles (except as provided in subsection (bb)), Howard, Frederick and Queen Anne's counties, in addition to, but not in substitution of, the powers which have been or may hereafter be granted them, shall have the following express powers:

(f) To establish a merit system in connection with the appointment of all county officials and employees not elected or appointed under the Constitution or public general laws of the State, *except that this power is not available to the County Commissioners of Dorchester County.*

(r) No act, ordinance or resolution shall be adopted by the county commissioners, under the powers conferred by this section, until ten days after a public hearing has been held on the proposed act, ordinance, or resolution. Prior notice of such public hearing, together with a fair summary of the proposed act, ordinance, or resolution, shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county once each week for three successive weeks;