

cretion, may deem necessary to provide the revenues required to carry out the purposes of this section. Said benefit charge shall be paid annually by all properties located as above specified, for a period of years co-extensive with the period of maturity of the bonds out of the proceeds of which such construction was done.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1967.

Approved April 21, 1967.

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CHAPTER 553

(Senate Bill 626)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 656 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Health," subtitle "Sanitary Districts," to change the requirements for hearings by sanitary commissions after completion of plans for water or sewerage systems and prior to construction of such facilities.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 656 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Health," subtitle "Sanitary Districts," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

656.

Whenever the plans and specifications for water or sewerage systems for any sanitary district shall have been completed and the commission shall have decided, after opportunity for a hearing has been given pursuant to Section 652 (b) or 653 of this Article, to proceed with the construction thereof, it shall advertise, by notice in one newspaper published, or of general circulation, in the county or counties where the sanitary district is located and such newspapers and technical press as it may deem proper, for bids for the construction of said system or systems, in part or as a whole, as in its judgment may appear advisable. The contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, or the commission may reject any and all bids, and, if in its discretion the prices quoted are deemed unreasonable or unbalanced, it may readvertise the work on any part of it or may do any part or all of the work by day labor; provided that at any time the commission may, in its discretion, expend for construction work, including day labor, materials and equipment, an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) without advertising or receiving bids. All such contracts shall be protected by such bonds, penalties and conditions as the commission may require, all of which shall be enforced in any court having jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate