

tricts and shall be given by the Commission distinctive names, shall be subject to all the provisions of this subtitle and shall be separate taxing districts and the filing of said plat and resolution shall constitute legal notice to the public of such action of the Commission. After the exercise of the powers granted by this subsection, no new sanitary districts shall be created under the provisions of Section 159(b) of this subtitle within any area that has been divided by resolution into sanitary districts.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That Sections 160, 161 and 162(a) of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County (1965 Edition, as amended, being Article 19 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "St. Mary's County," subtitle "Sanitary Districts," said Section 161 having been last amended by Chapter 175 of the Laws of Maryland of 1966, be, and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments to read as follows:*

160.

(a) The Commission shall cause surveys, plans [, specifications] and estimates to be made for water supply, sewerage and drainage systems in those portions of St. Mary's County in which the Commission exercises authority, and shall divide each sanitary district into water, sewerage and drainage districts in such way as shall, in its judgment, best serve the needs of the various communities, and shall promote convenience and economy of installation and operation. Whenever, and as, such plans are completed, the Commission shall give notice by publication in one newspaper published within the County, for three weeks, and by handbills posted and circulated in the localities where said improvements are contemplated, and shall state in said notice the probable cost of the contemplated improvements, and shall further state therein that plans of the improvements may be inspected at the Commission's office and that any person interested in said improvements will be heard by the Commission at a time to be specified in the notice, but not less than ten days after first publication thereof. If ten residents and landowners in the sanitary district wherein the improvements are contemplated shall thereupon, and within ten days after the last of said publications of said notice, file a petition with the Commission protesting against the proposed improvement, the Commission shall grant them a hearing within ten days after such petition is filed in the office of the Commission and after not less than five days notice of the time and place of said hearing by advertisement published in one newspaper published within the County, and by personal notices addressed to any one or more persons whose names are signed to said petition. After due hearing as aforesaid, the Commission shall decide upon the reasonableness of the objections stated in the petition; and shall dispose of the same by written order concurred in by a majority of the Commissioners, which order shall be published in the same manner as notices are herein required to be published and a copy of which shall be mailed to any one or more of the petitioners. If the petitioners are not satisfied with the Commission's decision, they shall have the right to take and enter, within ten days after the last publication of said order as aforesaid, an appeal to the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County, who shall review the Commission's decision and decide as to the necessity and propriety of the improvement contemplated and