

or times not exceeding twenty (20) years from their date or dates, as may be determined by the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County, and may be made redeemable before maturity, at the option of the County Commissioners, at such price or prices and under such terms and conditions as may be fixed by the County Commissioners prior to the issuance of said bonds. In the event any such issue of bonds shall be issued to mature and be payable on the serial maturity plan, then the schedule of maturities of said issue of bonds shall be so arranged that one-twentieth (1/20) of the principal amount thereof shall mature and be retired in each consecutive year accounting from the date of issue thereof. The interest to be borne by the bonds of any such issue shall be limited to such rate or rates as will produce an average interest cost on said bonds to the County of not exceeding six per centum (6%) per annum. The County shall determine the form and the manner of execution of any of said bonds, including any interest coupons to be attached thereto, and shall fix the denomination or denominations of the bonds and the place or places of payment of principal or interest, which may be at any bank or trust company within or without the State. The County Commissioners are hereby empowered to provide that the County seal to be affixed to said bonds may be imprinted thereon in facsimile, and that all signatures and counter-signatures on said bonds and the coupons attached thereto may likewise be in facsimile except that at least one of said signatures on each bond shall be manually affixed. In case any official whose signature or facsimile of whose signature shall appear on any such bonds or coupons shall cease to be such official before the delivery of such bonds, or shall become such an official between the date of issue and date of delivery thereof, such signature or facsimile will nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes the same as if he had remained in office until such delivery or had taken office prior to said date of issue. The bonds may be issued in coupon or in registered form, or both, as the County Commissioners may determine, and provisions may be made for the registration of any coupon bonds as to principal alone and also as to both principal and interest, and for the reconversion into coupon bonds any bonds registered as to both principal and interest, and for the interchange of registered and coupon bonds. The County Commissioners may sell any such bonds in such manner either at public or private sale, and for such price or prices, as it may determine to be for the best interests of the County, but no such sale shall be made at a price so low as to require the payment of interest on the money received therefor at more than six per centum (6%) per annum, computed with relation to the absolute maturity of the bonds in accordance with standard tables of bond values, excluding, however, from such computation the amount of any premium to be paid on redemption of any bonds prior to maturity. In the event the County shall sell or offer for sale at public sale any of the bonds hereby authorized, such sale shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by Sections 10 and 11 of Article 31 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition) as said sections may be amended from time to time. All action which the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County is authorized by this section to take in the issue and sale of the bonds hereby authorized, shall be taken by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, adopted in accordance with the established practices of the County.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all bonds issued pursuant to the authority of this Act shall, notwithstanding the provisions