

panies," Section 125 as added by Chapter 257 of the Acts of 1968, be and they are hereby repealed; and that new Sections 124 and 125 be and they are hereby enacted in lieu thereof, to stand in place of the sections so repealed, all to read as follows:

124.

*A. Authorized rate. The County Commissioners of Charles County are hereby authorized and directed to levy for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1969, and annually thereafter a rescue tax at the rate necessary to produce a sum adequate to support the various volunteer rescue squads in Charles County. Such a tax shall produce a total annual sum equivalent to but not more than \$2.00 for each resident of Charles County, nor less than \$1.50 for each resident of Charles County. Number of residents shall be determined by the State Department of Health's latest estimate.*

*B. The said rescue tax shall be levied and collected in the same manner as other State and County taxes and shall be levied on all taxable real and personal property in Charles County. The County Commissioners may, at their discretion, collect said rescue tax as an integral part of the annual real and property taxes of Charles County.*

*C. The Charles County Volunteer Rescue Squad Association shall annually review the financing of the various rescue squads and recommend to the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners a formula for the distribution of funds to the various rescue squads. The Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall annually review and establish a formula based on the recommendations of the Charles County Volunteer Rescue Squad Association. Once established, said formula shall be subjected to annual review and revised by mutual agreements of the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners and the Charles County Volunteer Rescue Squad Association, providing, however, that if such agreement cannot be reached, the formula employed in the previous year's distribution shall continue in use until such agreement is reached.*

*D. Formula for distribution of Funds. The Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall submit to the County Commissioners on or prior to April 1, of each year the approved formula for the distribution of funds of the various rescue squads of Charles County.*

*E. The Charles County Commissioners shall review the adopted formula and make distribution of the funds available under subsection A in accordance with the formula providing that all rescue squads shall receive an equal percentage of their requirements, as determined by the formula. Such payments shall be made on September 1, 1969, and annually thereafter.*

*F. The Charles County Volunteer Rescue Squad Association shall, at least twice each calendar year, conduct an inspection by a duly appointed committee of the Association to ascertain whether each rescue squad's equipment and apparatus complies with the standards of the Association. The Association shall on or before the first day of June and December of each year, submit a report in writing to the County Commissioners, stating whether each squad meets or fails to meet the standards of the Association. After January 1, 1969, no new volunteer rescue squads shall be formed without the express*