

in the distribution of the proceeds of the fire tax to the various fire departments in Charles County; expanding the uses to which said funds can be allocated; providing that any excess proceeds from this tax shall be used to reduce the indebtedness of the various fire departments, or assist in the formation of new departments, or set up an emergency fund in order to provide assistance to new or existing departments that have suffered losses through no fault of their own; providing for the documentation, by the Charles County Volunteer Fireman's Association, of any fire department that has failed to meet the standards of said Association; providing for changes when the department shall submit their respective financial reports; providing that if a fire department shall cease its operation, the assets and liabilities of said department shall revert to the County Commissioners; providing for certain changes in the procedure should any fire department fail to comply with the various standards that have been imposed upon them; and providing that the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall review all proposals for capital expenditures RENUMBERING CERTAIN OF THESE SECTIONS, AND RELATING GENERALLY TO THE SEVERAL FIRE AND RESCUE COMPANIES AND TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN CHARLES COUNTY.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 117(c) (d) (e), 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, AND 123, and ~~124~~ of the Code of Public Local Laws of Charles County (1965 Edition, being Article 9 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Charles County," subtitle "Fire Companies," last amended by Chapter 56 of the Acts of 1968; be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; AND THAT SECTION 124 OF SAID ARTICLE AND SUBTITLE BE REPEALED AND THIS SECTION RE-ENACTED, WITH AMENDMENTS, AS SECTION 123A THEREOF TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER SECTION 123; and that new Sections SECTION 117(f) and ~~118A~~ of said Article, title and subtitle be and they are IT IS hereby added; to follow immediately after Sections SECTION 117(e) and ~~118~~ thereof, and all to read as follows:

117.

(c) The proceeds collected from said County fire tax shall thereafter be paid by the County Commissioners semi-annually June 30 and December 31 of each year, commencing December 31, 1965, to all the fire departments in Charles County. The [amount of the proceeds to be distributed to each department shall be determined] *proceeds shall be distributed as directed* by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners, which is hereby created and which shall be composed of six members, one of whom shall be a County Commissioner of Charles County, one of whom shall be appointed by the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association, one of whom shall be appointed by the Charles County Volunteer Rescue Squad Association and three of whom shall be appointed by the Governor. The members of the board shall serve without compensation for terms of four years each with vacancies to be filled in the same manner as the original membership was filled. Providing further that the initial term of the member appointed by the Charles County Rescue Squad Association shall be for two years.