

taxes, (2) prescribing Councilmanic districts, (3) authorizing the issuance of bonds or other financial obligations for a term of less than twelve months, (4) refunding County obligations originally issued prior to the adoption of the Charter of 1948, and (5) authorizing obligations for public school sites, construction, remodeling, or public school buildings, whenever the total amount of such obligations authorized to be issued in any one year does not exceed one-fourth of one percent of the assessable base of the County.

Section 115. *Referendum Procedure*

Any petition to refer legislation to the voters of the County shall be filed with the Board of Supervisors of Elections within seventy-five days following the date on which the legislation shall become law. When a referendum petition has been filed, the legislation to be referred shall not take effect until thirty days after its approval by a majority of the qualified voters of the County voting thereon. Emergency legislation shall remain in force from the date it shall become law notwithstanding the filing of a petition for referendum, but shall stand repealed thirty days after rejection by a majority of the qualified voters voting thereon.

Section 116. *Legislative Procedure*

Consistent with law and the provisions of this Charter, the Council shall, by resolution, prescribe its rules of procedure and provide for the publication of its proceedings.

Section 117. *Limitations*

Neither the Council, nor any member thereof, shall appoint, dismiss, or give directions to any individual employee of the executive branch of the County government.

ARTICLE 2. EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 201. *Executive Power*

The executive power vested in Montgomery County by the Constitution and laws of Maryland and by this Charter shall be vested in a County Executive who shall be the chief executive officer of Montgomery County and who shall faithfully execute the laws. In such capacity, the County Executive shall be the elected Executive Officer mentioned in Article XI-A, Section 3, of the Constitution of Maryland. The County Executive shall have no legislative power except that he may be expressly delegated the power to make rules and regulations by a law enacted by the Council.

Section 202. *Election and Term of Office*

The County Executive shall be elected by the qualified voters of the entire County at the same time as the Council. He shall serve for a term of office commencing at noon on the first Monday of December next following his election, and ending at noon on the first Monday of December in the fourth year thereafter, or until a successor shall have qualified.

Section 203. *Qualifications*

The County Executive shall have been a qualified voter of Montgomery County for the five years next preceding his election. He shall be not less than thirty years of age. The County Executive shall not hold any other office of profit in federal, state, county or municipal government. The County Executive shall not, during the term for which he was elected, be eligible for appointment to any other County office or position carrying compensation. He shall devote his full time to the duties of his office and shall not participate in any private occupation for compensation.