

PORTED BY THREE-FIFTHS OF ALL THE MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH OF THE TWO HOUSES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE SAME SHALL TAKE EFFECT FROM THE DATE OF ITS PASSAGE.

Approved April 22, 1970

CHAPTER 322

(House Bill 41)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 2-205 of Article 93 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Supplement), title "Decedents' Estates," subtitle "The Court," subheading "The Register of Wills," to increase the maximum amount of salary which can be set by the Board of Public Works for the registers of wills in the state, and providing for a subdivision of this section.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 2-205 of Article 93 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Supplement), title "Decedents' Estates," subtitle "The Court," subheading "The Register of Wills," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

2-205.

(a) Each Register shall be entitled to receive annually a salary of not less than \$6,000 (\$12,000 in Baltimore City) and not more than ~~[\$17,000]~~ \$20,000, to be determined in each instance by the Board of Public Works. In determining the annual salary of each Register, the Board of Public Works shall be guided in the exercise of its discretion by the population of his County determined by the last official United States Census, by the dollar volume of total fees and taxes collected and of excess fees turned over to the State for each of the preceding five years by the office of the Register for which the salary is being fixed, and by other pertinent data which have relation to the reasonableness of the salary in relation to the work done and volume handled by the office; it being the intent of this Section that each Register shall receive a fair and adequate compensation for the effort and duties required of him by his office and the volume and character of work done by him as Register in comparison to the salary fixed by the Board of Public Works for each of the other Registers.

(b) The salaries of the Registers shall be payable semi-monthly from the fees and receipts of the office, after deducting the necessary expenses of the office, including salaries of deputies and clerks, books, stationery, office supplies and other necessary and customary expenses of doing business.

(c) If the fees and receipts of the office shall be insufficient in any month to pay all or any part of the expenses of the office and authorized salary of any Register, the deficiency shall be deducted by the Register for that month, from the taxes due the State Comp-