SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 324(g) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Somerset County (1963 Edition and 1970 Supplement), being Article 20 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Somerset County," subtitle "Tax Exemptions," be and it is hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

324.

- (g) No tax exemption granted by the County Commissioners under the authority of this section shall have any effect after December 31, [1970] 1975.
- SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote supported 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 29, 1971

## CHAPTER 286

(House Bill 318)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 3(f) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," to provide that the County Commissioners of Garrett County shall institute a merit system for all county employees pursuant to certain reports, and to delete obsolete provisions relating to merit system study commissions for Charles CALVERT and Garrett Counties.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 3(f) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

3.

(f) To establish a merit system in connection with the appointment of all county officials and employees not elected or appointed under the Constitution or public general laws of the State, except that this power is not available to the County Commissioners of Dorchester County. This subsection shall be applicable in Queen Anne's County, and the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County shall have the powers provided herein. There is hereby created in Calvert County a commission of nine persons, three of whom shall be appointed by the County Commissioners of Calvert County, three of whom shall be appointed by the Calvert County delegation in the House of Delegates and three of whom shall be