

CHAPTER 408

(House Bill 650)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 24 of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," amending the laws concerning the publication of county expenses in certain counties of this State in order to delete a particular provision applying to the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County; and revising the form and organization of this Section.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 24 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Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

24.

(a) They shall make out and publish annually in at least two newspapers published in their respective counties if there be two, a detailed, minute and accurate statement of the expenses of their said counties, specifying therein each particular item of expense, and for what and to whom paid, and the clerk of the county commissioners who fails to perform the duty imposed by this section shall forfeit the sum of one hundred dollars. [Provided that the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County shall not expend more than twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200) in any one year for publishing the notices required by this section, and the publication of the notices of the supervisor of elections relative to elections, registration, etc.]

(b) Provided that in St. Mary's and Frederick counties it shall not be necessary to publish an itemized statement of county expenses, but a summary of such statement shall be published as required herein, and such an itemized statement shall be available for public examination in the office of the clerk to the county commissioners.

(c) Provided, further, that in Howard County the County Commissioners may in their discretion publish, at an expense not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) in one newspaper a detailed, minute and accurate statement of the expenses of said county, specifying therein each particular item of expense, and for what and to whom paid.

(d) Provided, however, that this section shall not apply to Anne Arundel County or Baltimore County.

(e) Provided, further, that this section shall not apply to Allegany, Carroll and Frederick counties, but that in Carroll County the County Commissioners shall publish annually in each newspaper in said county and in Allegany and Frederick counties the County Commissioners shall publish annually in at least two newspapers in said county a statement of the receipts and expenses of said county in sufficient detail to inform the general public, with reasonable clarity, the source of such receipts and the nature of such expenses. In Allegany County the published statement shall also contain a notice that an itemized statement is available for public examination and this itemized statement of such receipts and ex-