SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 3(f) and 3(g) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Supplement and 1972 Interim Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows: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 II, except that this power is not available to the County Commissioners of Dorchester County II. This subsection shall be applicable in DORCHESTER AND Queen Anne's [ICounty I] COUNTIES, and the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County shall have the powers provided herein. IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADDITIONALLY SHALL HAVE THE POWER AND AUTHORITY TO INCLUDE IN THE COUNTY'S MERIT SYSTEM THE EMPLOYEES OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD AND THE DORCHESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

The County Commissioners of Garrett County shall institute a merit system for all county employees pursuant to the final reports and recommendations of the Merit System Commission and Governmental Study Commission of Garrett County, the system to be effective as of January 1, 1972.

(g) To establish and maintain a general system of pensions and retirement and group insurance for the benefit and advantage of its officers and employees, with necessary classifications and terms of admissions. This subsection shall be applicable in Washington County AND DORCHESTER COUNTY and the County Commissioners shall have the powers provided herein. In Charles County the County Commissioners also shall have the authority to make special provisions for retirement funds for employees who reach retirement age prior to the origination of a retirement system. IN DORCHESTER COUNTY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY INCLUDE THE EMPLOYEES OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD AND THE DORCHESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IN ANY PENSION, RETIREMENT OR GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED BY THE COUNTY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1973.

Approved May 7, 1973.

CHAPTER 317

(House Bill 745)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 36 of Article 63 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Replacement Volume and 1972 Supplement), title "Mechanics' Lien," subtitle "Boats and Vessels," to correct certain errors in the laws relating to mechanics' liens on boats.