

(p), (q), and (r) of Article 81 - Revenue and Taxes, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and [[it is]] they are hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 81 - Revenue and Taxes

277.

(m) The rate of tax applicable to instruments recorded with the clerk of the circuit court of [Baltimore, Montgomery, St. Mary's, Wicomico, Allegany, Garrett, Dorchester, and Anne Arundel] ALLEGANY, GARRETT, AND WICOMICO counties shall be as follows:

In the case of instruments conveying title to property, the tax shall be at the rate of \$1.10 for each \$500 or fractional part thereof of the actual consideration paid or to be paid; in the case of instruments securing a debt, the tax shall be at the rate of \$1.10 for each \$500 of the principal amount of the debt secured.

(n) The rate of tax applicable to instruments recorded with the clerk of the [Superior Court of Baltimore City and with the clerk of the] circuit court for [Charles, Calvert and Worcester] BALTIMORE, CALVERT, DORCHESTER, AND WORCESTER counties shall be as follows:

In the case of instruments conveying title to property, the tax shall be at the rate of \$1.65 for each \$500 or fractional part thereof of the actual consideration paid or to be paid; in the case of instruments securing a debt, the tax shall be at the rate of \$1.65 for each \$500 of the principal amount of the debt secured.

(p) [Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the county commissioners of Queen Anne's, Caroline and Kent Counties in lieu of the rate of tax provided in subsection (b) above, are authorized by resolution to adopt a rate of tax] THE RATE OF TAX APPLICABLE TO INSTRUMENTS RECORDED WITH THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CAROLINE, KENT, AND QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTIES SHALL BE as follows:

In the case of instruments conveying title to property, the tax shall be at the rate of \$1.10 for each \$500.00 or fractional part thereof of the actual consideration paid or to be paid; and in the case of instruments securing a debt, the tax shall be at the rate of \$1.10 for each \$500.00 of the principal amount of the debt secured. [Immediately upon taking any such action, the county commissioners of Queen Anne's, Caroline or Kent counties shall certify such action to the clerk of the circuit court of Queen Anne's, Caroline or Kent counties and to the State Comptroller; and after] AFTER