

tax shall thereafter be paid by the County Commissioners on September 30 and June 30 of each year, beginning on September 30, 1974, to all the fire departments in Charles County. The proceeds shall be distributed as directed by the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners, [which is hereby created and] which shall be composed of [six] SEVEN members, one of whom shall be a County Commissioner of Charles County, one of whom shall be elected by the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association, one of whom shall be elected by the Charles County Association of Emergency Medical Services, and [three] FOUR of whom shall be appointed by the Governor. The gubernatorial members of the Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall serve without compensation for terms of four years each, and the remaining members shall serve without compensation for one year terms, with vacancies to be filled in the same manner as the original membership was filled. ALSO, THE MOST RECENTLY APPOINTED GUBERNATORIAL MEMBER SHALL BE A PERSON WHO IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF CHARLES COUNTY. THE INITIAL TERM OF THIS MEMBER SHALL BE UNTIL JULY 1, 1979. THEREAFTER, THE FOUR GUBERNATORIAL MEMBERS SHALL BE COMPRISED OF TWO PERSONS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF CHARLES COUNTY, AND TWO PERSONS WHO ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF CHARLES COUNTY.

126B.

(g) [In the event that] WHEN a qualified volunteer dies, a [burial] DEATH benefit [up to] OF \$2,500 shall be [payable] PAID.

126D.

(d) This program shall be funded in the following manner:

(1) funds up to, but not to exceed 50 percent of its costs, [or one one hundredth (.01) of the] OR ONE CENT FROM EACH ASSESSMENT OF THE FIRE tax [rate], shall be taken from the fire tax fund [and rescue tax funds] collected and disbursed under Sections 117 through 126 of the Code of Public Laws of Charles County. The Board of Fire and Rescue Commissioners shall provide annually such funds as are required from the fire tax [and rescue tax] receipts.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976.

Approved May 4, 1976.
