

newspaper published within the county for three (3) weeks and by handbills posted and circulated in the localities where improvements are contemplated. The Commission shall state in the notice the probable cost of the contemplated improvements and shall further state in it that plans of the improvements may be inspected at the Commission's office and that any person interested in the improvements will be heard by the Commission at a time to be specified in the notice, but not less than ten (10) days after first publication of it. If ten (10) residents and landowners in the sanitary district in which the improvements are contemplated, within ten (10) days after the last of the publications of the notice, file a petition with the Commission protesting against the proposed improvements, the Commission shall grant them a hearing within [ten (10)] 15 days after the petition is filed in the office of the Commission and after not less than five (5) days' notice of the time and place of the hearing by advertisement published in one (1) newspaper published within the county and by personal notices addressed to any one (1) or more persons whose names are signed to the petition. After due hearing, the Commission shall decide upon the reasonableness of the objections stated in the petition and shall dispose of them by written order concurred in by a majority of the Commissioners. The order shall be published in the same manner as notices are required to be published, and a copy of which shall be mailed to any one (1) or more of the petitioners. If the petitioners are not satisfied with the Commission's decision, they have the right to take and enter, within ten (10) days after the last publication of the order, an appeal to the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County, who shall review the Commission's decision and decide on the necessity and propriety of the improvements contemplated and whether the district can stand the cost of them. The decision of the County Commissioners is final.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved April 14, 1981.

CHAPTER 85

(House Bill 1751)

AN ACT concerning

St. Mary's County - Building Permit

FOR the purpose of raising the maximum amount which a person in St. Mary's County may be fined for commencing construction without first obtaining a building permit and without complying with certain other provisions of law.