

which are filed and offered for record with the Motor Vehicle Administration, except for liens or encumbrances upon vessels which are filed and offered for record with the Department of Natural Resources, provided that conveyances to the State or any agency thereof or any political subdivision of the State shall not be subject to the tax or charge imposed by this section.

(u) The rate of tax applicable to instruments recorded with the clerk of the [Superior Court of] CIRCUIT COURT FOR Baltimore City and with the clerk of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County shall be as follows:

In the case of instruments conveying title to property, the tax shall be at the rate of \$2.20 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 \$2.20 for each \$500 of the principal amount of the debt secured.

278.

(a) No instrument subject to the tax imposed by this subtitle, shall be received for record by any clerk of the court unless and until a stamp is affixed to said instrument and cancelled. The Comptroller shall supply to the clerks of the circuit courts [of the respective counties or the clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City,] stamps to evidence the payment of said tax, for sale to persons offering such instruments for record, under such rules and regulations as the Comptroller may prescribe. The proceeds from the sale of said stamps, together with the recordation charges herein provided, shall be accounted for and paid over to the county commissioners of the county or the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore in which the tax is collected; provided, however, that (i) in the case of the recordation of instruments conveying title to or creating liens or encumbrances upon real or personal property which is situated in two or more counties or in the City of Baltimore and one or more counties the tax shall be paid in each county or the City of Baltimore according to the applicable rate of tax therein notwithstanding the provisions of § 277 (j) based upon such value as the value of the property situate in the county or city bears to the whole consideration represented by such instrument and the revenue therefrom shall be accounted for and paid to each such county or city. It shall be the duty of any person offering for recordation an instrument conveying title to or creating liens or encumbrances upon real or personal property which is situated in two or more counties or in the city and one or more counties to furnish to the clerk of the court a certification showing the basis for such apportionment of value between or among the several counties or the city; a county transfer tax, for the purposes of this section, shall be apportioned as a recordation tax and (ii)