

(a) (1) The board of county commissioners or the county council shall annually meet and discuss with municipal officials, and after this consultation with municipal officials, shall levy a tax on the assessable property located within one or more of the municipal corporations of the county, which is less than the general county property tax rate, if it can be demonstrated that the municipal corporation performs governmental services or programs in lieu of similar county governmental services or programs. In establishing the property tax rate on the assessable property within one or more of the municipal corporations, the county shall take into account the governmental services and programs which the municipal corporations perform in lieu of similar county governmental services and programs and the extent that the similar services and programs are funded through property tax revenues. The county property tax rate set for one municipal corporation does not have to be uniform among all municipal corporations within the county, and the rate set for one tax year need not be the same in any succeeding year.

(2) In lieu of a lesser rate of county property tax as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the county may make a payment to the municipal corporations to assist the municipal corporations in funding governmental services or programs which the municipal corporations perform in lieu of similar county services or programs.

(3) The provisions of this subsection apply only in:

- (i) Allegany County;
- (ii) Anne Arundel County;
- (iii) Baltimore County;
- (iv) Garrett County;
- (v) HARFORD COUNTY;
- [(v)] (VI) Howard County;
- [(vi)] (VII) Montgomery County;
- [(vii)] (VIII) Prince George's County.

(b) (1) The board of county commissioners or the county council shall annually meet and discuss with municipal officials, and after this consultation with municipal officials, may levy a tax on the assessable property located within one or more of the municipal corporations of the county, which is less than the general county property tax rate, if the municipal corporation performs governmental services or programs in lieu of similar county governmental services or programs. In establishing the property tax rate on the assessable property within one or more of the municipal corporations, the county may take into account the governmental services and programs which the municipal