

(4) Members of the classified service may be permanently separated therefrom through resignation, rejection on probation or removal for cause. They may be temporarily separated from the classified service through suspension pending charges or leaves of absence granted at the request of the employee.

(5) [(a)] An employee shall not be permanently removed from the classified service other than through resignation or rejection on probation except IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS UNDER ARTICLE 27, §§ 727 THROUGH 734D OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND for cause upon written charges and after an opportunity to be heard in his own defense. [The Board of Public Safety shall file a copy of any charges against any employee at his last known mailing address and shall provide that, within thirty (30) days thereafter, the employee has an opportunity to be heard in his own defense. The finding and decision of the Board of Public Safety may be appealed to the Circuit Court for Charles County, and the case shall be heard de novo by said Court.

(b) The County Commissioners, among the rules and regulations, shall prescribe what may constitute cause for removal, but no removal shall be allowed because of the religious or political opinions or affiliations of any employee.]

L. The County Commissioners may include the members of the Sheriff's office in the [Maryland] State Retirement AND PENSION System as provided under [Article 73B, §§ 163 through 170] TITLE 31 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

[M. The administrative, clerical and police employees of the Board who are appointed and employed under the provisions of Subsection C (3) and (4) of this section shall not engage in any political activity beyond their regular and normal powers to vote and as citizens to express their views on public affairs.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved May 18, 1995.

CHAPTER 485

(House Bill 1391)

AN ACT concerning

Talbot County - Property Transfer Tax Rate

FOR the purpose of altering a certain termination provision applicable to a certain increase in the maximum allowable transfer tax rate in Talbot County; and making this Act an emergency measure.