

BY adding to

The Public Local Laws of Kent County
Section 475-D
Article 15 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
(1968 Edition and 1975 Supplement, as amended)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 475-D be and it is hereby added to the Public Local Laws of Kent County being Article 15 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland (1968 Edition and 1975 Supplement, as amended) to read as follows:

Article 15

475-D.

(A) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL APPOINT A PEOPLE'S COUNSEL WHO SHALL REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL IN ZONING MATTERS AS HEREINAFTER SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

(1) THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL SHALL BE A RESIDENT OF KENT COUNTY, A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THE MARYLAND BAR, AND ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAW FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT.

(2) THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. HE MAY SERVE UNTIL HE RESIGNS OR HE MAY BE REMOVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT ANY TIME.

(3) THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND DUTIES:

(I) HE SHALL APPEAR AS A PARTY BEFORE THE ZONING AUTHORITY OF KENT COUNTY, THE COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS, AND THE COURTS ON BEHALF OF THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL, TO DEFEND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AND ZONING MAPS AS ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND IN ANY MATTER OR PROCEEDING NOW PENDING OR HEREAFTER BROUGHT INVOLVING ZONING RECLASSIFICATION, VARIANCE, OR SPECIAL EXCEPTION UNDER THE KENT COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS, IN WHICH HE MAY DEEM THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO BE INVOLVED. HE SHALL HAVE IN THE APPEARANCE, ALL THE RIGHTS OF COUNSEL FOR A PARTY IN INTEREST, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO PRESENT HIS CASE, TO CROSS EXAMINE, TO OBJECT, TO BE HEARD, AND TO FILE AND PROSECUTE AN APPEAL IN HIS CAPACITY AS PEOPLE'S COUNSEL FROM ANY ORDER OR ACT OF THE ZONING AUTHORITY OF KENT COUNTY, OR OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS TO THE COURTS AS AN AGGRIEVED PARTY TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY.

(II) HE SHALL MAKE INVESTIGATIONS AS HE