

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1966.

Approved May 6, 1966.

CHAPTER 707

(House Bill 710)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, ~~Section~~ SECTIONS 3(a) (E), (F), (L), (M), (O), (R), (S) AND (Z) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," to grant the County Commissioners of Kent County certain enumerated powers.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That ~~Section~~ SECTIONS 3(a) (E), (F), (L), (M), (O), (R), (S) AND (Z) of Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "County Commissioners," subtitle "General Provisions," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

3.

(a) The county commissioners of each county in this State, except Worcester, **[Kent,]** Caroline, (except as hereinbelow provided), Allegany, except as specifically provided in subsection (s), Prince George's, Washington, Somerset, Dorchester, Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Cecil, Charles (except as provided in subsection (bb)), Howard, Frederick and Queen Anne's counties, in addition to, but not in substitution of, the powers which have been or may hereafter be granted them, shall have the following express powers:

(E) TO FIX AND PRESCRIBE THE SALARY OF COMPENSATION OF ALL APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT BE APPLICABLE IN WICOMICO AND KENT COUNTIES.

(F) TO ESTABLISH A MERIT SYSTEM IN CONNECTION WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF ALL COUNTY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES NOT ELECTED OR APPOINTED UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OR PUBLIC GENERAL LAWS OF THE STATE. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL NOT BE APPLICABLE IN KENT COUNTY.

(L) TO PROVIDE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR ANY COUNTY WORK AND THE MAKING AND AWARDED OF CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000 IN HARFORD COUNTY AND IN ALL OTHER COUNTIES \$500 AND TO REQUIRE BONDS IN CONNECTION WITH SAID WORK OR CONTRACTS, WHENEVER DEEMED PROPER; AND IF NO BIDS ARE SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO ANY CALLS THEREFOR, TO PLACE THE