

Chapter 615

(House Bill 133)

AN ACT concerning

Charles County – Annual Financial Report and Annual Audit Report – Filing Date

FOR the purpose of altering the date by which Charles County is required to file a certain financial report with the Department of Legislative Services and report the results of a certain audit with the Legislative Auditor; and generally relating to the date by which Charles County is required to file a financial report and the results of an audit.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Local Government
Section 16–304
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Volume and 2015 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Local Government
Section 16–306
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Volume and 2015 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Local Government

16–304.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, on or before October 31 after the close of its fiscal year, each county, municipality, and special taxing district shall file with the Department of Legislative Services a financial report for that fiscal year.

(2) (i) A county, municipality, or special taxing district with a population of over 400,000 may file its financial report on or before December 31 after the close of its fiscal year.

(ii) Unless subparagraph (i) of this paragraph applies, Howard County may file its financial report on or before November 30 after the close of its fiscal year.

(iii) Calvert County, Caroline County, **CHARLES COUNTY**, Frederick County, Queen Anne's County, St. Mary's County, Talbot County, and Wicomico County may file the county's financial report on or before December 31 after the close of the county's fiscal year.

(b) The financial report required under subsection (a) of this section shall be:

(1) prepared on the form established by the Department of Legislative Services; and

(2) verified by the chief executive officer of the county, municipality, or special taxing district.

(c) If a county, municipality, or special taxing district does not comply with subsection (a) of this section, the Comptroller, on notice from the Executive Director of the Department of Legislative Services, may order the discontinuance of all money, grants, or State aid that the county, municipality, or special taxing district is entitled to receive under State law, including money from:

- (1) the income tax;
- (2) the tax on racing;
- (3) the recordation tax;
- (4) the admissions and amusement tax; and
- (5) the license tax.

16-306.

(a) The county, municipality, or special taxing district shall report the results of the audit required under § 16-305 of this subtitle to the Legislative Auditor:

(1) on the form and in the manner that the Legislative Auditor requires; and

(2) on or before the date the financial report of the county, municipality, or special taxing district must be filed under § 16-304(a) of this subtitle.

(b) An audit report filed by a county, municipality, or special taxing district with the Legislative Auditor shall include financial statements of the county, municipality, or special taxing district that are:

(1) prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; and

- (2) audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- (c) An audit report filed with the Legislative Auditor is a public record.
- (d) If a county, municipality, or special taxing district does not comply with subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the Comptroller, on notice from the Executive Director of the Department of Legislative Services, may order the discontinuance of all money, grants, or State aid that the county, municipality, or special taxing district is entitled to receive under State law that are distributed by the Comptroller, the clerks of the court, or any other unit of State government.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.