

HOUSE BILL 243

L2

7lr1511
CF 7lr1512

By: **St. Mary's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2017

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **St. Mary's County – Auditing Requirements – Repeal**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain provisions of law that relate to the appointment,
4 salary, removal, and powers of a county auditor for St. Mary's County; repealing
5 certain provisions of law concerning a certain annual audit and an accounting system
6 in the county; and generally relating to auditing in St. Mary's County.

7 BY repealing

8 The Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County

9 Section 8–1, 8–2, and 8–4 and the chapter “Chapter 8. Auditor”

10 Article 19 – Public Local Laws of Maryland

11 (2007 Edition and March 2015 Supplement, as amended)

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

14 **Article 19 – St. Mary's County**

15 [Chapter 8.

16 Auditor.]

17 [8–1.

18 For the purpose of an annual audit of the official financial affairs of all persons and
19 offices handling funds of St. Mary's County, on or before June 1 in each year, the County
20 Commissioners of the county shall appoint a competent and reputable certified public
21 accountant as Auditor, to conduct an audit in that year, at a salary which they shall
22 determine and pay, together with his expenses, from a sum to be included for that purpose
23 in the annual levy of taxes. The audit for that year shall be submitted to the County

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Commissioners by November 1. The Commissioners shall direct the Auditor to make an
2 audit for the preceding fiscal year of the books, vouchers, accounts and records of each
3 official who collects, receives, holds, deposits or disburses funds of the county, including the
4 Treasurer, Sheriff and any other official handling the funds. The Commissioners may
5 remove the auditor, in their discretion, and shall fill immediately all vacancies created by
6 removal, death, resignation or otherwise.]

7 [8-2.

8 The officials whose finances are being so audited shall upon request produce, and
9 the Auditor may require the production of, any and all books, vouchers, accounts and other
10 records and papers in any way pertaining to said funds or an audit thereof; and the Auditor
11 may summon, with or without directions to produce such books and records, and examine
12 under oath or affirmation which he may administer, officials whose affairs are being so
13 audited or any other person deemed necessary by him, upon the matters pertaining to said
14 county funds or relating to the matters being audited; and for these purposes he shall have
15 power to issue process compelling such witness to attend before him and produce his records
16 and papers, which process shall be directed to, and served promptly by, the Sheriff of said
17 county; and any person who shall refuse or neglect to produce any such books, vouchers,
18 accounts or other records and papers, as required, or shall refuse to respond to the
19 summons, or to be sworn or affirmed, or, being sworn or affirmed, to answer the questions
20 of said Auditor relating to said funds or the matters and finances to be audited, shall be
21 guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof before any court of competent
22 jurisdiction, shall be fined, for each offense, not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00),
23 provided that said Auditor must, wherever possible, require such production or such
24 attendance and testimony at the office or place where the books and records are kept or
25 where the official duties of the officials whose finances are being audited are principally
26 carried on.]

27 [8-4.

28 Upon recommendation by said Auditor, the County Commissioners may direct and
29 require the installation and maintenance of any system of bookkeeping or accounting by
30 the officials subject to audit hereunder.]

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2017.