AN ACT concerning Property Tax – Vehicles Valued as Stock in Business – Alteration of Tax Credit and Notification on Annexation

FOR the purpose of requiring that certain notice be provided to commercial property owners in a certain area; altering the calculation of a certain property tax credit that the governing body of a county or municipal corporation is required to grant against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business beginning on a certain date; providing for the retroactive application of this Act authorizing the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant a certain property tax credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business beginning on a certain date; requiring the governing body of a certain municipal corporation to grant a certain property tax credit against the municipal corporation property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business beginning on a certain date; and generally relating to the notification of municipal annexation and a property tax credit for vehicles valued as stock in business.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Local Government
Section 4–406
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Tax – Property
Section 9–108
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

Article – Local Government
4–406.

(a) After an annexation resolution is introduced, the chief executive and administrative officer of the municipality shall publish notice in accordance with the requirements of this section that:
(1) briefly and accurately describes the proposed annexation and the applicable conditions and circumstances; and

(2) specifies the date, time, and place that the legislative body sets for the public hearing on the proposed annexation.

(b) After an annexation resolution is introduced, the Chief Executive or the Administrative Officer of the municipality shall notify commercial property owners in the area to be annexed of:

(1) all personal property taxes and fees imposed by the municipality; and

(2) the date, time, and place that the legislative body sets for the public hearing on the proposed annexation.

(C) (1) Public notice of the annexation resolution shall be published:

(i) 1. at least four times; or

2. if the total area of the proposed annexation is 25 acres or less, at least two times;

(ii) at not less than weekly intervals; and

(iii) in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the municipality and the area to be annexed.

(2) The public hearing shall be:

(i) set no sooner than 15 days after the final required publication of the public notice; and

(ii) held in the municipality or the area to be annexed.

(c) Immediately after the first publication of the public notice, the municipality shall provide a copy of the public notice to:

(1) the governing body of the county in which the municipality is located; and

(2) any regional or State planning agency with jurisdiction in the county.
The county and any regional or State planning agency with jurisdiction in the county has the right to be heard before the public at the hearing on the proposed annexation.

The public hearing may be rescheduled for or continued to a later date not more than 30 days after:

(i) the date when the hearing was originally scheduled; or

(ii) the date on which the hearing began but was not completed.

If the hearing is rescheduled or continued, public notice shall be published:

(i) at least 7 days before the date of the rescheduled or continued hearing; and

(ii) in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality and the area to be annexed.

The public notice shall:

(i) briefly and accurately describe the area to be annexed; and

(ii) specify the date, time, and place of the rescheduled or continued public hearing.

Article – Tax – Property

9–108.

The obtains as provided in Subject to subsections (b) and (c) subsection (b) of this section, the governing body of a county or municipal corporation shall grant a property tax credit under this section against the applicable county or municipal property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business in an amount equal to:

(1) for the taxable year beginning July 1, 1990, 25% of the tax imposed on those vehicles; and

(2) for the taxable year beginning July 1, 1991 and each taxable year thereafter, through the taxable year beginning July 1, 2015 and 2018, 50% of the tax imposed on those vehicles; and
(3) For the taxable year beginning July 1, 2016-2019, and each taxable year thereafter, 100% 75% of the tax imposed on those vehicles.

(b) For In addition to the property tax credit required under subsection (a) of this section, for the taxable year beginning July 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, the governing body of a county or municipal corporation may grant a property tax credit under this section against the applicable county or municipal property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business in an amount equal up to 100% of the tax imposed on those vehicles.

(c) For the taxable year beginning July 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, the governing body of the City of College Park shall grant a property tax credit under this section against the applicable municipal property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business in an amount equal to 50% of the tax imposed on those vehicles.

(d) In addition to any the property tax credit required under subsection (a) of this section, the governing body of a county or municipal corporation shall grant a property tax credit under this section against the applicable county or municipal property tax imposed on vehicles valued as stock in business in an amount equal to any increase in property tax resulting from an increase in the percent of assessment over the percent of assessment which was in effect for fiscal year 1989.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2019, and shall be construed to apply retroactively and shall be applied to and interpreted to affect all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2016.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2019.