
By: **Senators Kramer, Frosh, Green, Hafer, Hollinger, Kittleman, Lawlah,
and Ruben**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2005

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Register of Wills - Salary**

3 FOR the purpose of removing a certain limit on the maximum salary that the Board
4 of Public Works may set for a register of wills; and providing that this Act does
5 not apply to the salary or compensation of an incumbent register of wills.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article - Estates and Trusts
8 Section 2-205(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Estates and Trusts
13 Section 2-205(b)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Estates and Trusts**

19 2-205.

20 (a) (1) It is the intent of this section that each register shall receive a fair
21 and adequate compensation for the effort and duties required of the register by the
22 register's office.

23 (2) The volume and character of work done by the register shall be in
24 comparison to the salary fixed by the Board of Public Works for each of the other
25 registers.

1 (b) (1) Each register is entitled to receive an annual salary [of not more
2 than \$85,000,] to be determined in each instance by the Board of Public Works.

3 (2) In determining the annual salary of the register, the Board of Public
4 Works shall be guided in the exercise of its discretion by:

5 (i) The population of the county determined by the last official
6 United States census;

7 (ii) The dollar volume of total fees and taxes collected and excess
8 fees turned over to the State for each of the preceding 5 years by the office of the
9 register for which the salary is being fixed; and

10 (iii) Other pertinent data which have relation to the reasonableness
11 of the salary in relation to the work done and volume handled by the office.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, pursuant to Article III, §
13 35 of the Maryland Constitution, this Act may not be construed to extend or apply to
14 the salary or compensation of the registers of wills in office on the effective date of
15 this Act, but the provisions of this Act concerning the salary or compensation of the
16 registers of wills shall take effect at the beginning of the next following term of office.

17 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2005.