SENATE BILL 1001

L26lr3662 CF HB 884 By: Senator Waugh Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016 Assigned to: Rules Re-referred to: Finance, February 19, 2016 Committee Report: Favorable Senate action: Adopted Read second time: March 22, 2016 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning St. Mary's County - Taxicabs - Repeal of Local Provisions FOR the purpose of repealing provisions of law that relate to the regulation of taxicabs in St. Mary's County; and generally relating to the repeal of provisions of law that relate to taxicabs in St. Mary's County. BY repealing The Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County Section 133–1 through 133–3 and the chapter "Chapter 133. Taxicabs" Article 19 - Public Local Laws of Maryland (2007 Edition and March 2014 Supplement, as amended) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article 19 - St. Mary's County [Chapter 133. Taxicabs] [133–1. The term "taxicabs," as used in this chapter, shall embrace any motor vehicle for hire designed to carry seven (7) persons or less, including the driver, operated upon any street or public highway in St. Mary's County or, on call or on demand, accepting or soliciting

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 passengers indiscriminately for transportation for hire between such points along public
- 2 streets or highways in St. Mary's County as may be directed by the passenger or passengers
- 3 so being transported, provided that nothing in this chapter shall be construed to include as
- 4 a taxicab a motor vehicle operated with the approval of the Public Service Commission of
- 5 Maryland on fixed routes and schedules.]
- 6 [133–2.

7 In order to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of St. Mary's 8 County and other persons who may use taxicab facilities therein, the County 9 Commissioners of St. Mary's County are hereby authorized and empowered to enact, amend 10 and repeal resolutions to fix requirements for ownership and operation of taxicabs in St. 11 Mary's County and to provide for inspection and licensing of taxicabs, their owners and 12 operators, provided that all necessary duties of inspection shall be performed by the office 13 of County Sheriff. The annual license fees set by the County Commissioners pursuant to 14 the power given them by this section shall not be less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the first 15 taxicab owned and operated by any person and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each 16 additional taxicab owned and operated by said person. The regulation herein provided for 17 the taxicab industry in St. Mary's County shall be in addition to any regulation by the 18 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of Maryland or the Public Service Commission of 19 Maryland. However, any applicant seeking a license for a taxicab who has not been in the 20 taxicab business in St. Mary's County for at least one (1) year prior to his application shall, 21 before the County Commissioners pass upon his application, obtain a written permit from 22 the Public Service Commission. Said permit shall be issued by the Public Service 23 Commission only upon written application and only if, in its judgment, after investigation, 24the granting of the permit would be for the public welfare and convenience. Any person, 25 firm or corporation subject to this chapter who shall be aggrieved by any resolution of the 26 County Commissioners of St. Mary's County, enacted pursuant to the authority herein conferred, may commence an action in the Circuit Court of St. Mary's County against the 2728 County Commissioners to vacate and set aside any such resolution on the ground that the 29 regulation, practice, act or service established by such resolution is unreasonable or 30 unlawful. The decision of the Circuit Court shall be appealable to the Court of Appeals of 31 Maryland by either party, provided that such appeal is entered within twenty (20) days 32 after the judgment of the Circuit Court is rendered.

- 33 **[**133–3.
- A. Any person, firm or corporation violating any resolution promulgated under the authority of § 133–2 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each offense. In addition, the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County, upon proof of any violation of any ordinance promulgated under § 133–2, shall have authority to revoke or suspend any license issued under the authority of Section 189 after according reasonable opportunity to the licensee to be heard.
- B. If any provision, clause, sentence, phrase or part of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation or circumstances, is held invalid, the

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.