

square or box to the right of and opposite the words "Against Fire Tax", so that the voters shall be able to designate by a cross-mark in the proper square or box his or her decision for or against said fire tax. If a majority of the votes cast in any of said voting precincts or part thereof shall be "For Fire Tax", then said tax shall be levied and paid over in accordance with the provisions of the Act, but if a majority of the votes cast shall be "Against Fire Tax", then this Act shall be of no effect and shall be null and void.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1955.

Approved April 11, 1955.

CHAPTER 422

(House Bill 785)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 128 (a) of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Revenue and Taxes", sub-title "Special Taxes", sub-heading "Gross Receipts Tax", modifying the gross receipts tax on certain corporations and companies in this State, and modifying the definition of railroad companies therein.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 128(a) of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Revenue and Taxes", sub-title "Special Taxes", sub-heading "Gross Receipts Tax", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

128. (a) A State tax as a franchise tax is hereby levied annually for the year 1930 and subsequent years measured by the gross receipts for the preceding calendar year of:

(1) All domestic or foreign railroad companies, whose roads are worked by steam, *diesel or electric*, doing business in this State, at the following rates, to wit:

One and one-quarter per centum on the first \$1,000 per mile of gross earnings, or on the total earnings if they are less than \$1,000 per mile; and

Two per centum on all gross earnings above \$1,000 and up to \$2,000 per mile; and

Two and one-half per centum on all earnings in excess of \$2,000 per mile. ~~rate of two (2%) per centum.~~

(2) Every domestic or foreign telegraph or cable, express or transportation, parlor car, sleeping car, safe deposit and trust company

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.