

and nine hundred and twenty-seven, are hereby declared to be valid existing indebtedness of said county incurred by said county for the maintenance of the six-months school term as required by the Constitution of North Carolina, notwithstanding any lack of authority for the issuance of said notes or error or omission or irregularity in the acts done or proceedings taken to provide for their issuance, and said notes held by the State Board of Education are hereby authorized to be refunded with bonds issued pursuant to the County Finance Act, being Chapter eighty-one of the Public Laws of one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven, as amended.

SEC. 2. That the powers granted by this Act are granted in addition to and not in substitution for existing powers.

Powers are additional not substituted.

SEC. 3. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Conflicting laws repealed.

SEC. 4. That this Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 7th day of March, 1945.

S. B. 218

CHAPTER 405

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE GUILFORD COUNTY TO EXTEND FIRE PROTECTION TO RURAL GUILFORD COUNTY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

SECTION 1. That the Commissioners of Guilford County are hereby authorized in their discretion to furnish fire protection to the various rural communities of said county as a governmental function under such rules and regulations as they may prescribe.

Authorizing Guilford County to extend fire protection to rural communities.

SEC. 2. That in order to carry out the provisions of Section one of this Act, the commissioners of said county are authorized to purchase and operate fire fighting equipment, and to incur such other expenses, as in their opinion, may be necessary for such purposes; provided that said commissioners shall not expend more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) directly arising from a tax levy for the purpose aforesaid during the period beginning July first, one thousand nine hundred and forty-five, and ending July first, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, but the proceeds derived from the sale of any equipment purchased under the provisions of this Act, may be reinvested in other similar equipment.

Authorizing purchase of fire equipment and operating expense.

New and additional powers.

SEC. 3. That this Act shall not be construed to be a limitation upon the powers of the county commissioners, but shall be in addition to any powers they may now have either under the general law or special statutes; nor shall it be construed to repeal any general law or public-local act relating to rural fire protection in Guilford County.

Plans for payment.

SEC. 4. That the sums, the payment of which is hereinbefore authorized must be paid pursuant to appropriation duly made and from the current operating general expense funds or from sales of fire fighting equipment purchased under the provision of this Act.

Within powers expire July 1, 1948.

SEC. 5. The powers herein granted shall expire on July first, one thousand nine hundred and forty-eight.

Conflicting laws repealed.

SEC. 6. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 7. This Act shall become in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 7th day of March, 1945.

S. B. 228

CHAPTER 406

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GASTON COUNTY TO CALL A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE AUTHORIZATION OF AN INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION TAX FOR GASTONIA TOWNSHIP, AND TO CREATE AND FIX THE POWERS OF AN INDUSTRIAL DIVERSIFICATION COMMISSION FOR GASTONIA TOWNSHIP.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Authorizing Gastonia Township to vote on industrial diversification tax.

SECTION 1. That the Board of County Commissioners of Gaston County are hereby authorized, empowered and shall call a special election upon the duly presented petition of any one hundred (100) qualified voters of Gastonia Township of Gaston County, to determine whether it be the will of the qualified voters of said township that they levy and cause to be collected annually, at the same time and in the same manner as the general county taxes are levied and collected, a special tax at the rate of two cents (2c) on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) valuation of property in said Gastonia Township, to be known as an industrial diversification tax, the funds therefrom, if the levy be authorized by the voters of Gastonia Township, to be used for the purpose of attracting new and diversified industries to Gastonia Township and Gaston County, and for the encouragement of new business and industrial ventures by local as well as foreign capital.