

formerly comprising land of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, extending in and along the banks of the Potomac River and Wills Creek within the corporate limits of the City of Cumberland; and

WHEREAS, said property has long since fallen into disuse and has become unsightly, unsanitary, and detrimental to the health and general well-being of the residents of Cumberland; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the General Assembly that such property has no use as a canal in the foreseeable future by reason of accretions of mud and cave-ins and because fast and inexpensive transportation is more readily available by rail, highway and the air; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Cumberland has, through its Planning Commission, evolved plans whereby said property could be utilized to the great public advantage for the construction of a modern highway with conduits underneath for the sanitary disposal of sewage, which highway will relieve traffic congestion in said City and provide a direct and expeditious route to the municipal airport, and also for housing and recreational purposes; and

WHEREAS, the said Mayor and City Council has expressed its willingness to take over said property with the obligation of eventually developing the same in the general public interest and as a matter of civic improvement; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That on behalf of the State of Maryland, the said General Assembly of Maryland does hereby respectfully petition the Department of the Interior of the United States Government to sell for a nominal consideration to the Mayor and City Council of Cumberland, Maryland, all the right, title and interest of the United States Government in and to the lands, located within the corporate limits of the City of Cumberland, Maryland, formerly belonging to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, together with all improvements and appurtenances thereto to be used for highway, sewerage, housing and recreational purposes; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transmit copies of this resolution, bearing the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, to the Secretary of the Interior of the United States and to each of the Senators and Representatives from the State of Maryland in the Congress of the United States.

Approved April 16, 1947.