

road and to provide for the construction of said road, by the State of Maryland, providing for the repair and up-keep of said road after its construction, and to be known as the National Defense Highway, together with a similar amount called for in a Bill appropriating money by Act of Congress, that is to say, that the State of Maryland shall appropriate one hundred and twenty-five thousand (\$125,000.00) dollars and Congress shall appropriate one hundred and twenty-five thousand (\$125,000.00) dollars to construct said National Defense Highway.

WHEREAS, By Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, 1796, Commissioners were appointed from Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties to lay out a public road from Annapolis to the City of Washington who reported progress from time to time to the Legislature, until the road was finally located and plats of the same were returned as a part of the report to the Legislature and to the Clerk's Office of said Counties to be recorded. And, whereas, the work of the Commissioners was duly ratified by the Legislature and said road has ever since been a highway between the two cities.

AND WHEREAS, Under the Act of 1908, Chapter 141, the State Roads Commission was authorized to lay out and adopt such roads for all the Counties of the State and City of Baltimore as would make a system of public roads for the whole State, and the Old Stage Road was adopted by said Commission among others in said Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties as part of the system.

AND WHEREAS, In said Counties, others of the adopted roads have been completed by the said State Roads Commission, when no work has been done on the Old Stage Road to subserve the public travel and convenience between the said two cities.

AND WHEREAS, The Commission has erected a State Highway from Baltimore City to Washington City and from Baltimore City to Annapolis, and no just reason exists why the Commission should not erect the Old Stage Road into a State Road which would complete the line of the triangle to run from the Capitol of the State in which is located the Nation's Naval Academy, at one end of the line and the capital of the United States, at the other and which line of road would be of inestimable value to both State and Nation in time of war as well as peace.