

WHEREAS, All of the Atlantic Ocean shoreline in Maryland is situated in Worcester County, being that area from Ocean City inlet to the Delaware line, which now constitutes the municipality of Ocean City; and

WHEREAS, Two-thirds of the shoreline is publicly owned by the State and Federal Governments (with the remaining one-third being privately owned); and

WHEREAS, From Ocean City Inlet north to the Delaware line, there exist subdivisions some of which define the limitation of private property and public beach and some of which do not; and

WHEREAS, Following a sudden tidal wave in 1962 (at which time the northern limits of Ocean City were at 41st Street, the remaining shoreline to the Delaware line having been annexed), the late President John F. Kennedy declared said area to be a disaster area; and

WHEREAS, Prior to the completion of said annexation, a dune line was established by public funds under the supervision of the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and

WHEREAS, An agreement was made by the Corps of Army Engineers providing for the maintenance of said dune line by the said county; and

WHEREAS, The maintenance of the dune line beyond 41st Street was not within the contemplation of the parties at the time of the agreement; and

~~Whereas, The area consists of three separate plotted land grants, some of which are so vague as to be the cause of a pending law suit in the Worcester County Circuit Court relative to the authority of the local government to grant construction permits in certain portions of the area; now, therefore, be it~~

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor of Maryland is requested to appoint a Commission to study and make recommendations relating to the maintenance and preservation of the shoreline and dune line of Ocean City and the establishment of a line beyond which would be public beach; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Commission include the Director of State Planning, ~~the Mayor of Ocean City, the City Solicitor of Ocean City,~~ a member designated by the Secretary of Natural Resources, and such other persons qualified and trained in oceanography and ecology, with the chairman to be named by the Governor; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the recommendations of the Commission be reported to the Worcester County Delegation, the Senators from Senate District 16, and the Legislative Council of Maryland by not later than November 1, 1971.

Approved May 17, 1971.