

count of injuries sustained by his workmen, great and unnecessary cost is now incurred in litigation, which cost is borne by the workmen, the employers and the taxpayers, in part, in the maintenance of courts and juries to determine the question of responsibility under the law as it now exists; and

*Whereas*, In addition thereto, the State and its taxpayers are subjected to a heavy burden in providing care and support for such injured workmen and their dependents, which burden should, in so far as may be consistent with the rights and obligations of the people of the State, be more fairly distributed as in this Act provided; and

*Whereas*, The common law system governing the remedy of workmen against employers for injuries received in extra-hazardous work is inconsistent with modern industrial conditions; and injuries in such work, formerly occasional, have now become frequent and inevitable.

*Now, Therefore*, The State of Maryland, exercising herein its police and sovereign power, declares that all phases of extra-hazardous employments be, and they are hereby withdrawn from private controversy, and sure and certain relief for workmen injured in extra-hazardous employments and their families and dependents are hereby provided for, regardless of questions of fault and to the exclusion of every other remedy, except as provided in this Act.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a Commission is hereby created which shall be known as the State Industrial Accident Commission, to be composed of three Commissioners. Immediately upon the taking effect of this Act, the Governor shall appoint such Commissioners (not more than two of whom shall belong to the same political party). One of them shall hold office for the first two years, another for the first four years, and another for the first six years following the passage and approval of this Act. Thereafter the term shall be six years. Each Commissioner shall devote his entire time to the duties of the office, and shall not hold any position of trust or engage in any occupation or business interfering or inconsistent with his duties as such Commissioner, or serve on or under any committee of a political party. Each Commissioner shall hold office until his successor shall be appointed and shall have qualified. Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term. A decision on any question arising under this Act concurred in by two of the Commissioners shall be the decision