

cates the Secretary of State shall collect double the fees allowed by law to Clerks of Courts for recording documents of similar length; and one-fourth of the sum so collected shall be paid by him to the State Tax Commissioner, to whom such abstract shall be transmitted for record; and said Certificate issued by the Secretary of State, or any certified copy thereof by him, shall be prima facie evidence of the existence of said corporation and the right to exercise the powers therein mentioned. Provided, that certified copies of the Certificate of Incorporation of corporations, incorporated prior to the passage of this Act, made by the Clerks of Courts and the State Tax Commissioner shall be taken as prima facie evidence as though this Act had not been passed.

SEC. 5. When such certificate has been issued and the bonus tax, if any, payable, paid to the Treasurer of Maryland, the incorporators, their associates and successors shall, according to the purposes, conditions and provisions in the Certificate contained, become and be a body corporate by the name therein stated.

SEC. 6. No Certificate of Incorporation shall be declared void for formal defects merely; and where an effort has been made in good faith to form, under the laws of this State a corporation formable thereunder, neither party to any transaction with it shall deny the legality of its incorporation or organization in any suit or proceeding growing out of such transaction; and "transaction" shall include any wrong to person or property giving rise to a cause of action or equitable relief by or against such corporation.

GENERAL POWERS.

SEC. 7. Every corporation which is subject to the provisions of this Article shall have the following general powers, except where the special provisions relating to any particular classes of corporations are inconsistent herewith:

- (1) To have perpetual succession by its corporate name.
- (2) To sue and be sued, complain and defend in all Courts.
- (3) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.
- (4) To transact its business, carry on its operations within or without this State, and to exercise in any other State, territory, district or possession of the United States, or in any