

as Section 40D, to follow immediately after 40C of said Article, providing for an optional procedure for the acquisition of land and interests in land in Montgomery County by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission for the construction and extension of water supply, sewerage and drainage systems, and to provide for the submission of said amendment to the qualified voters of the State for adoption or rejection.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, (Three-fifths of all members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That the following new Section 40D, to follow immediately after Section 40C of Article III, be and the same is hereby proposed as an amendment to Article III of the Constitution of Maryland, the same if adopted by the legal and qualified voters of the State as herein provided, to become a part of the Constitution of Maryland.*

40D. Eminent Domain—Water, Sewerage and Drainage Systems of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission in Montgomery County.

The General Assembly shall enact no law authorizing private property to be taken for public use without just compensation, to be agreed upon between the parties or awarded by a jury, being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation, except that where such property, located in Montgomery County in this State, is in the judgment of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission needed for water supply, sewerage and drainage systems to be extended or constructed by the Commission, the General Assembly may provide that such property, except any building or buildings, may be taken immediately upon payment therefor by that condemning authority to the owner or owners thereof, or into the Court to the use of the person or persons entitled thereto, such amount as the condemning authority shall estimate to be the fair value of said property, provided such legislation requires that the condemning authority's estimate be not less than the appraised value of the property being taken as evaluated by at least one qualified appraiser, whose qualifications have been accepted by a Court of Record of this State, requires the payment of any further sum that may subsequently be awarded by a jury, and provides that prior to the implementation of any immediate taking by the Commission through the filing of a declaration thereof in Court the resolution of the Commission proposing that taking is transmitted to the County