

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland did charter a company to construct a canal from some point on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, within the District of Columbia, to a point on the Chesapeake Bay, near the City of Baltimore, which charter has expired by limitation; and,

Preamble WHEREAS, It is now more than ever necessary to secure to the City of Baltimore a portion of the large and increasing trade of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, which can only be effected by the construction of a branch canal from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal; and,

Preamble WHEREAS, To secure this trade to the State of Maryland and the City of Baltimore, it is only necessary to construct twenty-eight (28) miles of canal, from the head of navigation on the eastern branch of the Potomac River to the head of navigation on the Patapsco River; therefore,

Preamble It is the intention of this act to incorporate a company to construct a canal from such point on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, within the District of Columbia, to such point on the Patapsco River near Baltimore city, as the Board of Directors may select, and to use such portion of the Potomac River near the eastern branch thereof, and such portion of the Patapsco River as the company shall deem best, and to confer upon the company hereby incorporated all and similar rights, powers, exemptions, privileges and franchises in the construction, maintainance and operation of this work as are now held and enjoyed by the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company under its charters and the several amendments thereto; therefore—

Intention SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That A. P. Gorman, E. Pratt, John T. Ford, George Wheeler, M. Bannon, Robert T. Baldwin, C. Coffin, W. H. Tuck, James G. Berret, S. J. Cooke, H. H. Dodge, Andrew Banks and such other persons as may become associated with them in the manner hereinafter provided, and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of "the Maryland Canal Company," and as such shall have all the rights, powers, exemptions, privi-