

August 1, and December 31st each year, except, however, any such prisoners being utilized or needed by the State Roads Commission for emergency road maintenance work in any county of this State. Persons who employ such prisoners from the Board of Correction shall be required to pay the reasonable value of such labor at the estimated prevailing wage scale for such work in the community where the prisoners are so employed and to give such security therefor as the Board may, in its discretion, determine and require. Persons employing such prison labor shall be authorized to sell the produce harvested by such labor notwithstanding the restrictions imposed by Section 762 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code. Prisoners so employed in the harvesting of crops shall be under the control and supervision of the Board of Correction to the same extent as when employed on the construction and maintenance of roads.

It is declared to be the policy of the State that, because of the enforced idleness of prisoners in the several penal institutions of the State, it is necessary and desirable that useful work on State projects may be found for said prisoners and that those who may be safely used for this work shall be put upon maintenance, construction or reconstruction.

All prisoners placed at work on farms under the provisions of this section shall remain under the control and custody of the officers of the institution from which they are assigned and shall remain subject to all of the laws, including the law as to escaping from prison, rules and regulations applicable to prisoners confined in said institution; and all prisoners employed on roads under the provisions of this section, for the purposes of the Workmen's Compensation Laws of this State shall be deemed employees of the institution from which they are assigned.

SEC. 20. *And be it further enacted*, That three new sections be and they are hereby added to Article 89B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "State Roads", to follow immediately after Section 155 of said Article, under a new sub-title "Special Provisions as to Designated Counties", to be known as Sections 156, 157 and 158, respectively and to read as follows:

SPECIAL PROVISIONS AS TO DESIGNATED COUNTIES

156. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 14 of this Article, the State Roads Commission is hereby authorized and directed, as contracting party or otherwise, to undertake, carry out and perform the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of county roads (as defined in Section 1A of