

expenses and costs of said Commission and shall pay any salaries, costs and expenses so approved from the General Emergency Fund authorized in the Budget.

26. The Commission is hereby authorized and empowered to conduct a State wide survey to determine and classify, in so far as is possible, such areas as are critically in need of additional temporary and permanent housing accommodations for veterans. The Commission is authorized and empowered to coordinate the activities of interested private persons or corporations and the Federal Government or any of its agencies with the governing bodies of the several counties and cities in the State or their duly authorized representatives. The Commission shall disseminate to the various local political subdivisions so requesting all information in its possession relative to Federal and other aid available for the acquisition or construction of veterans' housing accommodations. The Commission is hereby empowered to act for and on behalf of the governing bodies of the several counties and political subdivisions or their representatives in negotiations with the Federal Government or its agencies or private industries for the purpose of obtaining housing accommodations for the local counties or cities when so requested by the local bodies.

27. The Commission is authorized and empowered to negotiate and contract with the Federal Government or any of its agencies for the purpose of obtaining funds or materials to be used for the construction or maintenance of veterans' housing accommodations in the State. The Commission shall also have authority to receive from the Federal Government or any of its agencies any grant or Federal funds or aid that is now or may hereafter become available which, in its discretion, will further the purposes of this Act. The Commission is further authorized to consult with and seek aid from representatives of the private building and other industries to formulate plans and recommendations as to the most efficient method, in accordance with sound business and financial policies, to relieve the housing shortage. Any contract or agreement entered into by said Commission with the Federal Government or any of its agencies or private persons or corporations to which the State of Maryland is a party shall first be approved by the Board of Public Works.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, and having been passed by a yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths