

use, the terms, conditions and rates of charges for such use, provided, however, that any such contract for the use of said bridge for such purpose or purposes shall in every case provide for adequate compensation to said Company, its successors and assigns. The rates of tolls and charges so fixed shall be the legal rates, unless and until changed by duly constituted public authority.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That no person, partnership, association or corporation, private or public, shall be authorized to, and it shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, association or corporation, private or public, to construct and operate any other bridge over the waters of the Potomac River within a distance of fifteen miles of the bridge the construction of which is herein provided for, except such other bridge be erected after the acquisition by the State of Maryland of the bridge to be erected pursuant hereto and with the consent of the General Assembly.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That a franchise tax is hereby levied annually upon the gross receipt of said Company, its successors and assigns derived from the tolls and other revenues from said bridge, such tax being as follows, to wit: $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of so much of such gross receipts as shall not be in excess of \$500,000 in any one year, and in addition thereto $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ of so much of such gross receipts as shall be in excess of \$500,000 and not in excess of \$1,000,000 for such year, and in addition thereto $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ of so much of such gross receipts for such year as shall be in excess of \$1,000,000 and that for the purpose of determining said tax, said Company, its lessees, its successors and assigns and any purchaser thereof shall make the appropriate reports and be subject to the appropriate penalties provided in Sections 172 and 191, inclusive of Art. 81 of the Code of Public General Laws of this State, and of said tax $\frac{1}{2}\%$ of such gross receipts as above specified shall be payable to the Treasurer of the State and the remainder thereof shall be payable to the Treasurer of Charles County and it shall be the duty of the State Tax Commission, when it has ascertained and fixed the amount of such tax to certify to the Comptroller of the Treasury and to the Treasurer of Charles County and to the said George Washington-Wakefield Memorial Bridge, Inc., the amount of such tax due the State of Maryland and the said Charles County, and thereupon said tax shall be collectible by the Treasurer of the State of Maryland and by the Treasurer of Charles County