

2. He shall have power to appoint a chief clerk who shall receive a salary of eighteen hundred dollars per annum, and two assistant clerks who shall each receive a salary of fifteen hundred dollars per annum, and two index clerks who shall receive a salary of twelve hundred dollars each per annum; and the sum of seven thousand two hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated annually for said purpose.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

This bill became a law on March 18, 1908, without signature, by reason of the expiration of the six days provided for in the Constitution.

CHAPTER 606.

AN ACT to provide for the restoration of public records, to be designated by the Commissioner of the Land Office, and appropriating a sum of money therefor.

WHEREAS, Certain public records of inestimable value to the people of Maryland, and deposited in the land office at Annapolis, are fast decaying and disintegrating, and in immediate danger of being irretrievably lost, as appears to this Assembly by the condensed report of the Public Records Commission, and other public records, the property of the State, are in like condition in various public offices of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner of the Land Office should be given authority and discretion in designating the records at this time most in need of preservation and restoration.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the Commissioner of the Land Office be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to have transcribed or rebound such records in his custody as may absolutely require copying or rebinding in order to replace or preserve the originals.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the sum of three thousand dollars annually, or so much thereof as may be necessary for two years be and the same is hereby appropriated for the use of the Commissioner of the Land Office, to be by him applied solely to the restoration of ancient public records, and to be expended according to his judgment and discretion. And the Comptroller of the State Treasury is hereby authorized to draw his warrant on the Treasurer of the State on the order of the