

flood control within the District, to condemn land and easements which may be necessary in the construction of levees and other flood control works, the condemnation proceedings to be in accordance with the provisions of Article 33A of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The said Commission is hereby authorized to assume all damages incident to any flood control works or improvements which it may be found necessary to construct, except damages to land and easements of railroads or other public utilities. The said Commission shall also have power to agree to furnish, without cost to the United States or any agency thereof, all lands and easements which may be needed in the construction of any flood control works or improvements and shall have power to agree to take over, operate and maintain such works when constructed.

XVI. The members of the Commission and its staff are hereby authorized to engage in civilian defense or other defense activities incident to the present war under the direction of, or in cooperation with, federal, state or county agencies having charge of such defense activities, and to continue to engage in such activities, for the period of the present emergency and until this authority is revoked by the General Assembly of Maryland.

SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted,* That if any clause, sentence, part or parts of this Act, or of any section thereof shall be held unconstitutional, such unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity of the remaining part of this Act or of any section thereof. The Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed the remaining parts of this Act or any section thereof, if it had known such clause, sentence, part or parts of any section thereof should be declared unconstitutional.

SECTION 4. *And be it further enacted,* That except as otherwise provided herein, all Acts and parts of Acts, laws and parts of laws, ordinances and parts of ordinances, inconsistent herewith or contrary hereto, be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. *And be it further enacted,* That nothing herein contained shall be construed to affect or impair the validity or obligation of any bonds, notes or certificates heretofore issued and sold by the Commission under any previous statute amended or repealed by this Act, but all such bonds, notes, or certificates are hereby ratified and confirmed as the valid and binding obligations of the Commission in accordance with the terms thereof, issued upon the full faith and credit of said Commission and of the county or counties guaranteeing the same.