

Common Council of Westminster to operate said water system; to levy such taxes as may become necessary for the proper maintenance and operation of the said water system; to meet the interest charges on whatever bonds may be outstanding against the said water system and to retire the same at maturity and to meet the interest charges on whatever bonds may be issued under this Act and to retire the same at maturity; to pass ordinances, adopt resolutions and promulgate rules and regulations appropriate to the operation and financing of the said water system; to provide that all bonds which may be issued under this Act shall be free of all City, County and State taxes; and to provide for a referendum vote of the qualified voters of The Mayor and Common Council of Westminster on the question—"Whether or not The Mayor and Common Council of Westminster shall acquire from The Maryland Water Works Company the water system, located in the Seventh Election District of Carroll County", and specifically exempting this Act, and the bonds issued thereunder, from the provisions of Sections 33-36, inclusive, of Article 31 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition).

WHEREAS, The Maryland Water Works Company is controlled by holding companies which are now in litigation in proceedings before the Securities & Exchange Commission entitled "United States of America before the Securities & Exchange Commission", File No. 70-455, under which proceedings it may become necessary that those in control of the said The Maryland Water Works Company to dispose of their said holdings; in which event it may, in the opinion of The Mayor and Common Council of Westminster, become advantageous for it to own and control said water system situate in said Seventh Election District of Carroll County, Maryland; therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That The Mayor and Common Council of Westminster be and it hereby is authorized and empowered to acquire and take over by purchase or condemnation a water system located in the Seventh Election District of Carroll County, which system is the property of The Maryland Water Works Company, its successors and assigns, and which said system includes real and personal property, rights, privileges, waters, streams, waterways, water courses, reservoirs, easements, facilities and franchises; and if the said water system shall be so acquired by condemnation, such condemnation proceedings shall be had in accordance with the provisions of Section 394 of Article 43 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland and Article 33A of said Code of Public General Laws.