

the property to be acquired upon the recording of plats containing certain information and upon the payment of certain monies; , AND PROVIDING WHEN THE VALUE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY NEEDED FOR RIGHT OF WAY PURPOSES SHALL BE DETERMINED; providing that certain information and plans of the State Roads Commission be not public records under certain conditions; providing for the creation of a Board of Property Review and setting forth to a certain extent its powers and duties; providing for an appeal from the findings of said Board; providing for authority to condemn land for other than highway purposes in certain cases; ; and providing that certain pending condemnation cases may be determined by the Board and for an appeal therefrom; , AND PROVIDING FOR A METHOD OF HANDLING RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITIONS THAT ARE IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That eleven new sections be and they are hereby added to Article 89B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "State Roads", said new sections to be known as Section 9A through 9K, and to follow immediately after Section 9 of said Article and to read as follows:

9A. *In cases where the State Roads Commission decides to construct a new highway or decides to make a major improvement to an existing highway, the Commission shall adhere to the hereinafter described procedure for acquiring, by condemnation, land and property rights for such highway construction or improvement. Insofar as practicable, the Commission shall use such condemnation procedure in acquiring rights of way and property rights for major highway construction or reconstruction, but in cases where the Commission deems the procedure inappropriate, it shall not be precluded from acquiring property under the provisions of the appropriate sections of Article 89B and Article 33A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition).*

9B. *When planning to construct a highway or a portion thereof on a new location, or when planning to make a major improvement to an existing highway or a portion thereof, the Commission after appropriate engineering and other studies shall determine the location of the highway to be constructed or reconstructed and it shall also determine the length of the construction as well as the width of the right of way necessary for construction. This construction plan shall be shown on plats or maps prepared by the Commission, which plats or maps shall show the center line of the proposed construction as well as the length and termini of the construction and the width of the necessary right of way on either side of the proposed center line, thereby showing the fee simple and easement area necessary for acquisition by the Commission. The plats shall also show thereon the property lines of the several property owners whose property will be affected by such acquisition. The Commission shall make such engineering and real estate studies, evaluations and investigation as may be necessary to establish in its opinion a fair value of the property and of the rights to be acquired, and the resulting damages to the remainder of the property, if any. Said property lines shall be established from information obtained by the Commission and may include metes and bounds survey information if such information is available in the Commission's file.*