

amended by Chapter 753 of the Acts of 1953, and Sections 321 to 326, both inclusive, sub-title "Harbors, Docks and Wharves", and Section 641, sub-title "Harbor, Docks and Wharves" of the Code of Public Local Laws of Baltimore City (1949 Edition), being Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Baltimore City"; any such agreement may provide for the transfer from time to time to the Authority by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore of such officers, including the Harbor Engineer of Baltimore City, or such employees of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of enabling the Authority to perform and carry out the duties undertaken by the Authority pursuant to such agreement; and every such officer, including the Harbor Engineer of Baltimore City, and every such employee of the City of Baltimore who is covered by and subject to the provisions of the City Service Commission of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore as a classified employee thereunder, who shall be transferred shall, without further examination or restriction, thereafter be entitled to all the rights and privileges and subject to all the provisions of Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Such transfer of an officer, including the Harbor Engineer of Baltimore City, or of such an employee shall be without diminution of salary or status as to each such respective officer, including the Harbor Engineer of Baltimore City, or of such employee, and the transfer, so far as reasonably possible, shall be to a position of comparable rank and responsibility. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, such transferred officers, including the Harbor Engineer of Baltimore City, or such employees shall be and become eligible for membership in the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland, and all rights of the officer, including the Harbor Engineer of Baltimore City, or of the employee under the provisions of the Employee's Retirement System of the City of Baltimore may be transferred to the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland in accordance with existing law providing for transfers of credits between and among the various retirement systems of the State and the municipalities of the State.

(b) Except as is expressly provided in any or all agreements entered into under and pursuant to the direction and authority hereof, nothing contained in this section shall in any way interfere with or impede the exercise by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore of any right, privilege or power granted to, or now exercised by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore under the terms and provisions of the various sections of the Charter and Public Local Laws hereinbefore referred to.

(c) It is expressly declared to be the purpose of this section of this Article that the Authority and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, to the extent that they have co-extensive power and authority in all matters relating to harbors, docks, wharves and port development, should avoid duplication of effort and assure the uninterrupted continuation of needed services. The duty to exercise all power, authority and right in the field shall be, remain and continue in the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore as to any portion, the transfer whereof shall not have been effectuated pursuant to an agreement duly entered into under and in accordance with the provisions hereof; and from and after the transfer to the Authority pursuant to any such agreement of any duty to perform any or all of the obligations,