

## CHAPTER 649

(House Bill 680)

AN ACT to add new Sub-section (27-A) to Section 6 of the Charter and Public Local Laws of Maryland (1949 Edition, being Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", said new Sub-section to follow immediately after Sub-section (27) thereof, authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to formulate and adopt a plan or plans to control and regulate within Baltimore City such open natural streams, storm and surface water drains, runs and natural storm and surface water drainage courses, public or private as in its judgment is desirable, and to compel abutting property owners of such water courses to wall up or by other methods to stabilize and secure such abutting and adjacent property from the danger of being inundated and to prevent the property from interfering with the flow of drainage water; to compel the owner or owners to maintain, rebuild and repair any wall or other stabilizing structure including the banks binding on said water courses and upon neglect or refusal so to do, the City of Baltimore shall have the authority to have the same done and to recover the costs thereof by suit at law, which costs shall be a lien on the property of the person or corporation abutting the water courses on which said work is done, and authorizing and empowering the City of Baltimore to establish and regulate within Baltimore City the use of any area or areas of land and future construction thereon adjacent to, abutting on or in proximity to such water courses, public or private, which are, due to the grade and elevation in relation to the bed of said water courses, susceptible to flooding.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Sub-section (27-A) be and it is hereby added to Section 6 of the Charter and Public Local Laws of Maryland (1949 Edition, being Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland) title, "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", said new Sub-section to follow immediately after Sub-section (27) thereof, and to read as follows:

*(27-A) STORM WATER COURSES AND FLOOD AREAS*

*(a) To formulate and adopt a plan or plans to control and regulate within Baltimore City such open natural streams, storm and surface water drains, runs and natural storm and surface water drainage courses, public or private, as in its judgment is desirable, and for this purpose to change the course, lines, depth and boundaries of said water courses, in whole or in part; to compel any person or corporation owning property binding on said water courses within Baltimore City to wall up or by other methods to stabilize and maintain such other property in so far as the same may bind the said water courses with a good and sufficient wall, or by other stabilizing methods and to such height as in its judgment the public good may require, so as to secure the same and adjacent property in a reason-*

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.