

A WRITTEN PETITION SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE PER CENTUM (25%) OF THE PERSONS WHO RESIDE IN THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED AND WHO ARE REGISTERED AS VOTERS IN COUNTY ELECTIONS AND BY THE OWNERS OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE PER CENTUM (25%) OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE AREA TO BE INCLUDED. UPON THE PRESENTATION OF SUCH A PETITION TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE CHAIRMAN THEREOF SHALL CAUSE TO BE MADE A VERIFICATION OF THE SIGNATURES THEREON AND SHALL ASCERTAIN THAT THE PERSONS SIGNING THE PETITION REPRESENT AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE PER CENTUM (25%) OF THE PERSONS WHO RESIDE IN THE AREA TO BE INCLUDED AND WHO ARE REGISTERED AS VOTERS IN COUNTY ELECTIONS, AND THE OWNERS OF TWENTY-FIVE PER CENTUM (25%) OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE AREA TO BE INCLUDED. UPON VERIFYING THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUB-SECTION HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL PROMPTLY CAUSE TO BE INTRODUCED AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING THE CHANGE OF BOUNDARIES AS REQUESTED BY THE PETITION. THE ORDINANCE SHALL DESCRIBE BY A DESCRIPTION OF CLEARLY ASCERTAINED BOUNDARY LINES BY LAND MARKS AND OTHER WELL-KNOWN TERMS CONSISTENT WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF OTHER AREAS INCLUDED IN THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION DISTRICT THE EXACT AREA PROPOSED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CHANGE AND BRIEFLY AND ACCURATELY DESCRIBING THE CONDITIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES APPLICABLE THERETO.

THE ORDINANCE MAY BE ADOPTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT A HEARING, AFTER PUBLIC NOTICE OF SUCH HEARING HAS BEEN GIVEN AND PUBLISHED NOT FEWER THAN FOUR (4) TIMES AT NOT LESS THAN WEEKLY INTERVALS IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE AREA PROPOSED TO BE ANNEXED, WHICH PUBLIC NOTICE SHALL BRIEFLY AND ACCURATELY DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED CHANGE AND THE CONDITIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES APPLICABLE THERETO. THE PUBLIC NOTICES SHALL SPECIFY A TIME AND PLACE AT WHICH A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE; THE HEARING SHALL BE SET FOR NOT LESS THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS AFTER THE FOURTH PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICES AND SHALL BE HELD IN THE COURT HOUSE AT UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND.

(B) ENACTMENT AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE.

FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY PROCEED TO ENACT THE ORDINANCE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USUAL REQUIREMENTS AND PRACTICES APPLICABLE TO ITS LEGISLATIVE