

for and on behalf of Washington College at Chestertown, in the State of Maryland on October 15, 1914.

WHEREAS, On October 15, 1914, a mortgage was executed by the Visitors and Governors of Washington College to the State of Maryland to secure the repayment of an appropriation of \$20,000 made by the State for buildings erected upon the lands belonging to the said Visitors and Governors of Washington College in the State of Maryland, at Chestertown; and to be used and employed by said body corporate for educational purposes in accordance with the terms of its charter creating a college for the liberal education of the youth of the State of Maryland, and of other States.

WHEREAS, Under the provisions of Article 19, Section 43 of the then existing Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, enacted in Chapter 42 of the Acts of 1914, a mortgage was required to be executed covering appropriations for capital expenditures. This section was repealed by Chapter 766 of the Acts of 1943 upon the specific grounds that it was no longer the policy of the State to make appropriations for capital expenditures by private institutions. In the opinion of the Attorney General of Maryland, this repealing act had no retroactive effect, said opinion being expressed by letter dated March 27, 1952 upon request of the Attorney for Memorial Hospital of Easton, Maryland, said letter expressly stating that the Board of Public Works was without authority to release such mortgage as is considered herein. This opinion is so construed by Chapter 329 of the laws of 1944 (Senate Bill 531) whereby the Board of Public Works is authorized and directed to release the mortgage of the Memorial Hospital at Easton.

WHEREAS, Washington College has been in existence at the same location since the investment of these funds in 1914 and more than one hundred years prior thereto, having extensively expanded and improved its facilities since said investment.

WHEREAS, The existence of the said mortgage is proving embarrassing in that the further growth and improvement of the said Washington College is being impeded in that said College is undertaking to take advantage of certain Federal Acts to improve its said facilities but is unable to do so until the aforesaid mortgage is released.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland be and it is hereby authorized and directed to release the mortgage and to discharge the debt received by said mortgage made by the Visitors and Governors of Washington College on October 15, 1914, and recorded among the Land Records of Kent County in Liber J.T.D. No. 30, Folio 369, etc.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1957.

Approved March 11, 1957.