

Court or to the proper parties the Commission shall be authorized to take possession of, maintain and operate said system, whether private or municipal, as a part of its general system, and from the date of such payment all properties along the line of any water main or sewer of the system so acquired shall stand in the same relation, bear the same benefit assessment, and be subject to the same regulations and penalties as though the system so acquired had been constructed and put into operation by the Commission under the provisions of this Act; provided, however, that no building or premises actually connected in an adequate manner with the said acquired system at the time of its purchase shall be required to pay any connection charge. Whenever there is in existence a privately owned water supply or sewerage system which in the judgment of the Commission is unfit, as a whole or in part, for incorporation with the Commission's system, the Commission shall disregard the existence of said system or unfit part thereof and extend its system to serve the area tributary to the existing system or unfit part thereof, and all the provisions of this Act relating to systems constructed by the Commission shall apply to said extension. Any municipality whose system is acquired by the Commission, whether by purchase or condemnation, is hereby authorized to use the amount paid to it for said system for the purchase or redemption of any bonds or debt which may be outstanding against the same or the Commission may as a part of the purchase price of said system, assume the payment of any such outstanding bond. The Commission shall not purchase any existing water mains, sewer or systems, in whole or in part, which are improperly constructed [or are not of sufficient capacity] or were constructed without proper authority from the State Department of Health since the passage of the Act requiring the same.

SEC. 17. *And be it further enacted,* That after the passage of this Act, whenever a municipality or the property owners or residents or developer of any locality in the Metropolitan District shall desire a water supply, sewerage or drainage system, or part thereof, to be constructed in that municipality or locality, including, but not limited to, those localities coming within the purview of Section 230J of Article 14 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, and the Commission shall decide that it is inexpedient or impracticable at that time [, owing to the remoteness from its general system or other causes,] to build such system, such municipality [or persons] or property owners or residents or developers, as the case may be, [may build and operate said system at its own expense, but it shall be constructed under plans and specifications prepared by the Commission and under its supervision, and its maintenance and operation shall be under the general control of the Commission; and no such system or part thereof, and no water main, sewer, storm drain, water or sewerage treatment plant, not connected with any of them shall be constructed or installed except as in this section provided, and any violation of this provision shall be a misdemeanor punishable under Section 21 of this sub-title. All construction and operating records, including cost records, shall be filed with the Commission, which shall be empowered at any time to take over said system or part thereof, or said water main, sewer, storm drain, water or sewage treatment plant, or connection with any of them, in the same manner as provided under Section 16 for systems existing at the time of the passage of this Act. The Commission shall be empowered to extend its water supply, sewerage or drainage systems