Whereas, Provident Hospital, a non-profit general hospital located in the City of Baltimore, for a long period of time has been rendering valuable medical services and aid to a large portion of the population of the Baltimore metropolitan area; and

Whereas, the physical plant and facilities of the Provident Hospital are not only antiquated and badly in need of repair, but such plant and facilities are inadequate, both as to space and design, to cope with the volume and level of services and help which such Hospital is now being called upon to perform; and

Whereas, in order to make provision for adequate and proper hospital facilities to serve the aforementioned portion of the population of the Baltimore metropolitan area, it will be necessary to establish a new hospital building and facilities in the City of Baltimore for such purposes; and

Whereas, it is contemplated that the State of Maryland, acting through its duly constituted representatives and officers, will provide the sum of approximately Two Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000.00) to be used for or in connection with the establishment of the aforesaid new hospital building and facilities, provided that the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore also provides an additional sum of approximately Two Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000.00) to be used for or in connection with the same purpose; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That:

- (a) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore be and it is hereby authorized to create a debt, and to issue and sell its certificates of indebtedness (hereafter called "bonds") as evidence thereof, to an amount not exceeding Two Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,400,000.00), the proceeds derived from the sale thereof to be used for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, but said debt shall not be created and said bonds shall not be issued in whole or in part unless an ordinance or ordinances of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore providing for the issuance thereof shall be first submitted to the legal voters of Baltimore City at such time and place as may be fixed by said ordinance or ordinances and be approved by a majority of the votes cast at such time and place, all as required by Section 7 of Article XI of the Constitution of Maryland; and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, in submitting any ordinance or ordinances for the issuance of said bonds, or any part thereof, to the legal voters of Baltimore City, may submit and resubmit the same at any municipal election as well as at any general election to be held in Baltimore City.
- (b) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may submit, by one ordinance, the whole of the debt authorized by this Act to the legal voters of Baltimore City at one time, or it may, by one or more separate ordinances, submit a part thereof to the legal voters of said city at different times.
- (c) All of said bonds, or any part thereof, shall be issued in accordance with a serial maturity plan so worked out as to discharge the entire principal amount represented thereby within not more than forty (40) years from the date of their issuance; provided, however,