

not exceed the acreage for which bond has been provided, and upon failure to comply, the Director of the Bureau of Mines shall stop further removal of overburden until the area affected has been reduced to the acreage for which bond has been provided. No additional permit shall be issued to any operator until he shall comply with the provisions of this section. Liability under such bond shall be for the duration of open pit mining at each operation, and for a period of one year thereafter, unless released prior thereto in a manner elsewhere provided by this subheading. Such bond shall be signed by the operator and a corporate surety licensed to do business in the State; provided, however, that the operator may elect to deposit cash or United States government securities with the Department in lieu of the surety bond hereinafter required. The cash deposit or par value of such securities shall be equal to the sum required for a bond and shall be upon the same terms and conditions. The Director of the Bureau of Mines, hereinafter called the "Director," shall, upon receipt of any such deposit of cash or securities, immediately place the same with the State Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to receive and hold the same in the name of the State, in trust, for the purposes for which such deposit is made. The State Treasurer shall at all times be responsible for the custody and safekeeping of such deposits. The operator making the deposit shall be entitled from time to time to demand and receive from the State Treasurer, on the written order of the secretary, the whole or any portion of any securities so deposited upon depositing with him, in lieu thereof, other United States government securities of a par value at least equal to the sum required for a bond as aforesaid, and also to demand, receive and recover the interest and income from said securities as the same become due and payable; provided, however, that where securities deposited as aforesaid, mature or are called, the State Treasurer, at the request of the operator, shall convert such securities into other acceptable securities designated by the operator. Contemporaneous with, and as a condition precedent to, the filing of said certificate and any renewal thereof, the operator shall pay to the Department a filing fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

665.

(b) At the request of the landowner and with the approval of the Director, a pond may be constructed in lieu of back fill to the extent of the area covered by such pond, *except that no such pond shall be permitted to be constructed in Garrett County.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1963.

Approved April 30, 1963.

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CHAPTER 619

(House Bill 514)

AN ACT to add new Section 296A to Article 661½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Motor Vehicles," subtitle "Operation of Vehicles Upon Highways," to follow immediately