

WHEREAS, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission has been authorized to construct, maintain and operate storm water or surface drainage systems in those areas in Montgomery County within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District, and other systems and parts thereof have been constructed and are operated and maintained under the jurisdiction of the County Council for Montgomery County, by the State Roads Commission, and by non-public parties; and

WHEREAS, Certain of the systems and parts thereof have by reason of economic necessity and topographic factors utilized open channels or drains, both through the utilization of existing streams and through the construction of such channels; and

WHEREAS, The unprecedented growth and population of the area within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District within Montgomery County has resulted in a substantial increase in the density of the population and intensity of land use, and it appears desirable to consider the question of whether the open channels or drains should be closed or covered over so as to minimize or prevent erosion, and health problems, and generally improve the utilization of land surface areas; and

WHEREAS, It is recognized that any proposed solution to the problem must be based upon an understanding of the engineering and economic factors inherent therein, and that no program for enclosing or covering the open drains and channels can be implemented unless there is first developed the background information on a factual basis; and

WHEREAS, The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission is, by reason of experience and the authority given to it under existing law, in a position to investigate and report upon the question of enclosing or covering over the open portions of the storm drainage systems in the herein mentioned area; and

WHEREAS, It is apparent that the surveys and studies must be accompanied by research work performed by engineering, fiscal and legal personnel, and to that end provision should be made by the Commission for the employment of consultants and research personnel if the necessity therefor is determined, and it appears that the most feasible method of making provision for the expenses to be incurred in performing the surveys and preparing the reports is by the utilization of funds from the sale of bonds authorized to be issued by the Commission for storm water or surface drainage system needs in the Montgomery County portion of the Washington Suburban Sanitary District; and while it is understood that the study of the problem is one that will require time and effort, the Commission will be requested to complete the surveys and reports prior to the commencement of the ~~1964~~ 1965 Session of the General Assembly so that if legislative authorization of an emergency nature is determined to be necessary, including the authorization for the issuance of additional bonds by the Commission for the implementation of any project found to be necessary, such law may be considered and passed at that Session; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission be and it is hereby requested*