

WHEREAS, It is estimated that the total initial cost of constructing and equipping said hospital will be Eight Million, Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$8,700,000.) and, as a result of the location thereof in the District of Columbia, said Foundation has obtained a Federal appropriation in the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.) under the Act of Congress of August 7, 1946 (60 Stat. 896), popularly known as the District of Columbia Hospital Center Act, and an additional appropriation of Three Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$375,000.), pursuant to the authorization of said Act, has been requested by said General Services Administration; and

WHEREAS, In addition, a Federal grant of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.) has been allocated to the construction of said hospital under the Act of Congress, popularly known as the Hill-Burton Act, and to complete said financing, said Foundation has obtained pledges of contributions from residents both of the District of Columbia and Prince George's County in an amount in excess of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.) and proposes to obtain additional pledges and contributions, and to provide the balance needed for the construction of said hospital, the equipping of the same and the provision of adequate working capital, through a grant by Prince George's County and a private loan from a reliable broker specially qualified in the field; and

WHEREAS, Approximately one-third of the amount pledged by private citizens for construction of said hospital has been pledged by residents of Prince George's County, such pledges constituting fifty-eight per cent of the number of individual pledges received, and it is estimated that approximately sixty per cent of the facilities will be utilized by residents of Prince George's County; and

WHEREAS, In view of the lack of adequate hospital facilities for the residents of the southeastern portion of Prince George's County, the demonstrated need therefor, the substantial Federal grants for the construction of said Greater Southeast Community Hospital which would not be available under existing law were said hospital located outside the District of Columbia, and the demonstrated interest of the residents of Prince George's County in the construction of said hospital, the General Assembly finds that the health, welfare and safety of the residents of a populous and growing portion of the State of Maryland would be served and protected by the construction of said hospital and that it is appropriate and in the public interest that the County Commissioners for Prince George's County, the residents of which will benefit from said hospital, be authorized and empowered to appropriate and contribute public funds toward the construction of said hospital; now, therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the County Commissioners for Prince George's County be and it is hereby authorized and empowered to appropriate a sum not exceeding Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000.) for and on account of the construction of The Greater Southeast Community Hospital on the site in the District of Columbia above described, and to expend, disburse and contribute said appropriation to The Greater Southeast Community Hospital Foundation, Inc., for such purpose.