sary for the welfare of the inhabitants of Dorchester County, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes hereof. All Acts and parts of Acts, however inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1965.

Approved May 4, 1965.

## CHAPTER 861

(House Bill 900)

AN ACT to add new Section 25A to Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume), title "Merit System," to follow immediately after Section 25 thereof, to provide for the classification and inclusion in the State Merit System without further examination or qualification of certain employees of the Laboratory of the Baltimore City Health Department, who were employed on January 1, 1965, upon timely application to the State Commissioner of Personnel.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Section 25A be and it is hereby added to Article 64A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume), title "Merit System," to follow immediately after Section 25 thereof, and to read as follows:

25A.

Any employee of the Laboratory of the Baltimore City Health Department who, while so employed, applies to the Commissioner of Personnel for appointment under the State Merit System on or before July 1, 1970, shall be so appointed, and without further examination or qualification shall be classified in the job classification under the State Merit System which is comparable or which most closely compares with his last job classification as a Baltimore City employee. An employee appointed to the State Merit System under this Section shall be given credit thereunder for the years of service rendered in Baltimore City for the purposes of establishing retirement and death benefits, compensation rates, including longevity steps, and the basic rates for vacation and sick leave credit earnings. No such employee who has been transferred from the Baltimore City Health Department to the State Merit System shall receive any diminution in compensation solely as a result of such transfer and appointment.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1965.

Approved May 4, 1965.