

*declared to be against State public policy, illegal and void, and no Court in this State shall give any effect to any provisions or stipulation in any such Contract mentioned in this Section; nor shall any defense to liability under any such Contract be based upon any such shorter limitation period.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1966.*

Approved April 29, 1966.

---

CHAPTER 488

(House Bill 965)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 1 of Article 54 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Land Office," to provide that upon the abolition of the office of Commissioner of the Land Office, the words "Commissioner of the Land Office" in said Code shall mean the Archivist of the Hall of Records Commission, transferring certain employees of the Land Office to the said Records Commission at said time, and providing that this Act shall be ineffective upon the rejection of the constitutional amendment proposed by this General Assembly for the abolition of the office of Land Commissioner.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 1 of Article 54 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Land Office," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:*

1.

(a) *Definition of "Commissioner of the Land Office." Upon the abolition of the office of the Commissioner of the Land Office as provided in the Act of 1966 amending Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution, the words "Commissioner of the Land Office" or "Land Commissioner" as used in this Code shall mean the Archivist appointed by the Hall of Records Commission.*

(b) *The Commissioner of the Land Office is a court of record with the same power to preserve order, punish contempts and enforce obedience to his orders and adjudications as is possessed by any other court of record.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That all persons employed by the Commissioner of the Land Office pursuant to Section 2 of Article 54 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition) and so employed on the date mentioned in Section 1 of this Act shall be transferred to the Hall of Records Commission and shall thereafter be employees of such Commission as fully as if initially appointed pursuant to Section 172 of Article 41 of said Code.*

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1966, provided, however, that if the qualified voters of this*