

19A.

(a) *There shall be a Land Acquisition Division under the Department of Public Improvements. Land for State projects funded under the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969" or "Program Open Space" shall be acquired exclusively by this Division. The Land Acquisition Division is charged with the sole responsibility to acquire land for State projects funded under the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969" or "Program Open Space," and has no responsibility for local projects or for developing the acquired land. Development is the responsibility of the managing State agencies. The Division shall be established for a period necessary to carry out a five-year acquisition program and shall cease to exist when it has fulfilled its responsibilities under the program.*

(b) *The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint a Chief of the Land Acquisition Division. The Chief shall be experienced and skilled in the field of land acquisition and shall receive a salary as provided in the budget. He shall continue in office at the pleasure of the Governor. The Chief shall be responsible to the Department of Public Improvements for discharging the functions assigned to the Division and for the administration of the Division. The Chief shall organize the Division as necessary to carry out the responsibilities and functions of the Division and shall have such employees and professional consultants as may be provided in the budget.*

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That new Section 277A be and it is hereby added to Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Supplement), title "Revenue and Taxes," subtitle "Recordation Tax," to follow immediately after Section 277 thereof, and to read as follows:

SEC. 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, THAT NEW SECTION 278A BE AND IT IS HEREBY ADDED TO ARTICLE 81 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1965 REPLACEMENT VOLUME AND 1968 SUPPLEMENT), TITLE "REVENUE AND TAXES," SUBTITLE "RECORDATION TAX," TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER SECTION 278 THEREOF, AND TO BE UNDER THE NEW SUBTITLE "STATE PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX," TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

277A 278A.

In order to pay the principal and interest on the Certificates of Indebtedness ~~is used~~ ISSUED pursuant to the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969," or "Program Open Space":

(a) *A tax is hereby imposed upon every written instrument conveying title to real property offered for record and recorded in the State, but conveyances to the State or to any agency or instrumentality thereof, or to any political subdivision of the State, shall not be subject to the tax imposed by this section. The term "written instrument" includes leases FOR A TERM OF YEARS ABOVE SEVEN YEARS, NOT PERPETUALLY RENEWABLE but does not include any mortgage, deed of trust, conditional sales contract, or any other device the purpose of which is to afford a security in real property rather than convey title thereto.*