

*deems it in the public interest to do so. Notwithstanding such temporary change in rates, the review procedures set out herein shall be conducted by the Commission as soon thereafter as is practicable.*

*(5) Every decision and order of the Commission in any contested proceeding shall be in writing and shall state the grounds for the Commission's conclusions. The effects of such orders shall be prospective in nature.*

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*The Commission shall annually prepare a budget which shall include its estimated income and expenditures for administration and operation.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That if any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid for any reason, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application and to this end, all the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable.*

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1971.*

Approved May 24, 1971.

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## CHAPTER 628

(House Bill 972)

AN ACT to repeal Sections 6A and 6B of Article 33A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (~~1965 Edition~~ and 1971 Replacement Volume), title "Eminent Domain" and to enact in lieu thereof ~~Nine (9) new sections to be known as 6A through 6-I inclusive,~~ NEW SECTIONS 6A THROUGH 6H, INCLUSIVE and to be under a new subtitle to be known as "Relocation Assistance Policies and Payments," said new sections to follow immediately after Section 6 thereof providing for certain relocation assistance payments and benefits to CERTAIN persons whose property is being acquired for public purposes by the State or a political subdivision or agency thereof or by any public or private organization having the authority to acquire property by eminent domain for public purposes, and providing for certain rule-making authority by the acquiring agencies.

WHEREAS, Public Law 91-646 of the 91st Congress, approved January 2, 1971 changes the relocation assistance legislation now in effect at the Federal level and requires that in order to obtain maximum Federal funds, for the Federally-aided public projects, the State relocation assistance legislation must conform to the requirements of said Public Law 91-646, and

WHEREAS, it is hereby declared to be the legislative intent to establish a uniform policy for the fair and equitable treatment of