

SEC. 2. 3. *And be it further enacted.* That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1971.

Approved May 17, 1971.

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CHAPTER 431

(Senate Bill 2)

AN ACT to add new Section 14C to Article 78A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume), title "Public Works," subtitle "Board of Public Works," to follow immediately after Section 14B thereof, authorizing the Board of Public Works to acquire certain architectural easements in and to specified areas in the city of Annapolis, describing the purpose of these architectural easements, and providing generally for the procedure and powers of the Board of Public Works for this purpose and for the provisions and restrictions applicable to these architectural easements.

WHEREAS, The environment of the majestic State House and of the Governor's Mansion in Annapolis is of deep concern to the Maryland General Assembly and the people of Maryland. It has been the State's purpose to enhance and enrich the historic surroundings of the State Capital.

Thus we have appropriated special funds in order that State office buildings and underground parking lots will be designed in architectural harmony with nearby historical structures. The State's example has not been emulated, and seven times in the last several years the environment of the government buildings has been jeopardized. In 1953, 1960, 1961 and 1969, inappropriate parking has been proposed for State Circle. In 1959, 1964 and 1965, large scale multi-story buildings were planned on Francis Street and State Circle. Only determined effort prevented the environmental degradation of these developments.

In order to protect the Capital of Maryland and the National Historic District of Annapolis, the General Assembly makes these further provisions concerning the protection of the architectural integrity of the vicinity of the State House in Annapolis; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 14C be and it is hereby added to Article 78A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume), title "Public Works," subtitle "Board of Public Works," to follow immediately after Section 14B thereof, and to read as follows:

14C.

(a) *The Board of Public Works may acquire architectural easements in and to the areas in the City of Annapolis specified elsewhere in this section, for the purpose of preserving the architectural*