

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

The Board of Public Works

FOR the purpose of requesting a study of the various responsibilities of the Board of Public Works.

The Board of Public Works, composed of the Governor, the Comptroller, and the Treasurer, has a constitutional responsibility for overseeing and supervising the construction of public works within the State of Maryland.

This responsibility has greatly expanded in recent years as the amount of State construction has increased and programs of State grants-in-aid to local governments, such as school construction, open space, and sewerage facilities, have required the Board to approve numerous local projects.

Since its creation by the Constitution of 1864, the Board has been assigned additional responsibilities by legislative enactment. These responsibilities include, among others, supervising the issuing of bonds, borrowing money in anticipation of taxes, adopting administrative policies for State agencies, participating in Federal programs on behalf of the State, and approving certain claims against the State.

The assignment of additional responsibilities has reached the point that the agenda of the Board is so lengthy and complex it is difficult for sufficient time to be given to the many major decisions which the Board is required to make.

There has been no overall study or review of the responsibilities of the Board of Public Works, and such a study and review would be particularly pertinent in light of the reorganization of the Executive Branch of the State Government; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Legislative Council is requested to undertake a study and review of the laws assigning responsibilities to the Board of Public Works and to submit recommendations for changing or modifying these laws as deemed appropriate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of the Legislative Council, Dr. Carl N. Everstine.

Approved April 30, 1974.