

under Art. 62B, §7 - now §6-401 of this title
- is deleted as unnecessary.

6-102. LEGISLATIVE POLICY.

(A) IN GENERAL.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND MAKES THE FOLLOWING DECLARATIONS OF ITS INTENT IN THE ENACTMENT OF THIS TITLE.

(B) PORTS AND HARBORS ARE VALUABLE STATE ASSETS.

THE PORTS AND HARBORS OF THIS STATE ARE ASSETS OF VALUE TO THE ENTIRE STATE. THE RESIDENTS OF ALL PARTS OF THIS STATE BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM THE WATERBORNE COMMERCE THAT THEY ATTRACT AND SERVICE. ANY IMPROVEMENT TO THESE PORTS AND HARBORS THAT INCREASES THEIR EXPORT AND IMPORT COMMERCE WILL BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF THE ENTIRE STATE.

(C) INCREASE OF COMMERCE.

(1) THE PURPOSE OF THIS TITLE IS TO INCREASE THE WATERBORNE COMMERCE OF THE PORTS IN THIS STATE AND, BY DOING SO, BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE.

(2) COMMERCE MAY BE ATTRACTED TO THESE AREAS BY:

(I) DEVELOPING EXISTING FACILITIES TO PROVIDE QUICKER, CHEAPER, AND BETTER HANDLING OF CARGOES; AND

(II) EFFECTIVELY ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING THE FACILITIES AND THE USE OF THE SEVERAL PORT AREAS.

(D) IMPROVEMENT OF PRIVATE FACILITIES.

(1) SINCE EXISTING PORT AND TERMINAL FACILITIES OF BALTIMORE AND OTHER PORT AREAS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED MOSTLY BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SEEKS PRIMARILY TO IMPROVE THE FACILITIES AND STRENGTHEN THE WORKINGS OF THE PRIVATE OPERATORS.

(2) HOWEVER, THE PRIVATE OPERATORS IN THE PORT AREAS HAVE A PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE MODERN PORT AND HARBOR FACILITIES SUITED TO THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC THAT THEY SERVE. THEREFORE, THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD HAVE POWER TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE RATES AND PRACTICES OF PRIVATE OPERATORS, AND, WHILE IT SHOULD ASSIST AND ENCOURAGE THE EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PRIVATELY OPERATED PORT FACILITIES, IT ALSO SHOULD HAVE THE POWER, IF PRIVATE FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE OR INADEQUATELY OPERATED AT ANY TIME, TO CONSTRUCT AND, IF NECESSARY, TO OPERATE ANY SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLIC FACILITIES THAT IT CONSIDERS TO BE REQUIRED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

(E) CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES.