approval by the Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects and engineers fees:

- (a) To provide State funds for loans, to be repaid in principal and—interest, to persons, municipalities, or counties for construction of shore erosion structures. Eligibility for such loans is pursuant to and as provided in Section 8-1005 of the Natural Resources Article (1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement).
- (3) There is hereby levied and imposed an annual State tax on all assessable property in the State in rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as and when due and until paid in full, such principal to be discharged within fifteen years of the date of issue of the bonds.
- (4) This Act shall take effect June 1, 1977. Approved May 26, 1977.

CHAPTER 804

(House Bill 1147)

AN ACT concerning

Nursing Homes - Medical Assistance Recipients

FOR the purpose of ensuring that beds are reserved for certain nursing home patients who are temporarily absent from the facility, by requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Plan to include certain per diem payments; defining certain terms; establishing procedures for determining the amount of payments; and prohibiting certain charges to the patient.

BY adding to

Article 43 - Health Section 566B Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 566B be and it is hereby added to Article 43 — Health, of the Arnotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) to read as follows: