

SERVICES, IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND UPON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPHS (3) (IV) OF THIS SECTION.

(6) THE BOARD MAY WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SECTION AS TO AWARDING SUCH CONTRACTS ON COMPETITIVE BASIS IF:

(I) THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY IS ENDANGERED AFTER A NATURAL DISASTER OR ACT OF GOD;

(II) A STATE OF EMERGENCY IS DECLARED BY THE GOVERNOR; OR

(III) A BONA FIDE SINGLE SOURCE OF SUPPLY OR A PROPRIETARY PRODUCT OR PROCESS IS REQUIRED; OR

(IV) ITS BOARD DETERMINES IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THIS STATE.

EACH WAIVER AND THE REASONS THEREFOR SHALL BE DOCUMENTED AND RECORDED AND IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO THE MARYLAND REGISTER FOR PRINTING IN THE NEXT AVAILABLE ISSUE.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of this Act do not apply to or affect the validity of any contracts in existence on July 1, 1977 but apply only to contracts written and entered into on or after July 1, 1977.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1977.

Approved May 26, 1977.

CHAPTER 922

(Senate Bill 953)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Gasoline Tax and Fraud Enforcement Unit

FOR the purpose of creating the Maryland Gasoline Tax and Fraud Enforcement Unit within the Comptroller's Office, with the staff as provided in the budget; authorizing the unit to enforce certain provisions of law; granting certain powers to the unit in the enforcement of such laws; requiring cooperation with other agencies; requiring the Comptroller's Office to pay for the services of the Maryland State Police assigned to the unit; requiring the State Police to