- (A) IN THIS SECTION, "MARYLAND FIRM" MEANS A BUSINESS ENTITY WHICH HAS ITS PRINCIPAL OFFICE IN THIS STATE.
- (A) (B) WHEN AWARDING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT BASED ON COMPETITIVE BIDDING, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ACCEPT THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BID FROM A MARYLAND FIRM OVER THAT OF A BID FROM A RESIDENT OF ANOTHER STATE IF:
- (1) THAT STATE GIVES ANY PREFERENCE TO RESIDENT FIRMS OVER MARYLAND FIRMS; AND
- (2) THE BID FROM THE MARYLAND FIRM DOES NOT EXCEED THE BID FROM THE NONRESIDENT FIRM BY MORE THAN 2 PERCENT.
- (B) (C) A MARYLAND FIRM DESIRING THE PREFERENCE PROVIDED BY THIS SECTION SHALL CLAIM THE PREFERENCE WHEN THE MARYLAND FIRM SUBMITS ITS BID.
- (6) (D) IF IN CONFLICT WITH ANY FEDERAL GRANT OR REGULATION AFFECTING THE CONTRACT, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of this Act which add to the Transportation Article, Section 2-108 shall go into effect and remain in effect from July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981; on June 30, 1981, those provisions shall automatically terminate without the necessity of further action by the General Assembly if the General Assembly enacts and the Governor signs House Bill 972 of 1980. If House Bill 972 of 1980 does not become law, the provisions of this enacting clause are null and void.

SECTION $2\ 3$. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1980.

Approved May 20, 1980.

CHAPTER 544

(Senate Bill 231)

AN ACT concerning

Real Estate Guaranty Fund

FOR the purpose of limiting access to the real estate guaranty fund to persons aggrieved in real property transactions—escurring estate transactions involving real estate located in this State.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,