

(ii) The estimated cost of the project will not be more than \$12,500.

(2) This section does not apply to a contract for labor and material required to maintain any highway to its previous width and cross section.]

[8-615.

(a) In its contract specifications for any State highway project or maintenance, the Administration may provide for:

(1) The payment of interest on any amount due to a contractor that is not paid within 90 days after the amount becomes finally due; and

(2) The terms and conditions that it considers proper for the payment of this interest.

(b) Any interest paid under this section is part of the cost of the contract.]

8-639.

(b) (1) The Secretary has [exclusive] authority, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 21, to approve the construction or modification of a railroad grade crossing or a change of crossing protection equipment and to impose conditions necessary to insure public safety at the crossing.

(2) No other approval, safety condition, or protective measure may be required by any public authority.

~~SECTION 22. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the person appointed to the position of Chairman of the Board of Contract Appeals of the Department of Transportation pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Acts of 1978 shall be the Chairman of the Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals created by this Act. That individual shall serve for the remainder of his term of office and shall retain all of the rights, status, salary, and benefits that he was entitled to prior to the repeal of the provisions of Chapter 418. The part-time members of the Board of Contract Appeals of the Department of Transportation, appointed pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Acts of 1978, shall be members of the Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals created by this Act, to serve on a part-time basis, until the appointment and qualification of their successors as provided in Section 1. All appeals pending before the Board of Contract Appeals of the Department of Transportation as of the effective date of this Act are transferred to the Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals.~~