

There has been established a program to finance the acquisition of land and the development of that land by the State and its subdivisions for outdoor public recreational and open space purposes, this program being known as "Program Open Space".

Chapter 403 of the Acts of 1969 (the "Act") authorized and directed the Board of Public Works to issue a State loan to be known as the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969" in the aggregate amount of \$60,000,000, the net actual cash proceeds of which are to be expended to fund Program Open Space.

Chapter 353 of the Acts of 1972 amended the Act to authorize and direct the Board of Public Works to increase the total amount of funds which the State of Maryland is authorized to borrow under the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969" to the aggregate amount of \$70,000,000, the net actual cash proceeds of which are to be expended to fund Program Open Space.

Chapter 632 of the Acts of 1974 amended the Act to authorize and direct the Board of Public Works to increase the total amount of funds which the State of Maryland is authorized to borrow under the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969" to the aggregate amount of \$82,000,000, the net actual cash proceeds of which are to be expended to fund Program Open Space.

Chapter 564 of the Acts of 1975 amended the Act to authorize and direct the Board of Public Works to increase the total amount of funds which the State of Maryland is authorized to borrow under the "Outdoor Recreation Land Loan of 1969" to the aggregate amount of \$88,000,000, the net actual cash proceeds of which are to be expended to fund Program Open Space.

To date only \$20,000,000 of the bonds authorized to fund Program Open Space has been issued.

By the end of fiscal year 1984, expenditures for State and local projects under Program Open Space have exceeded revenues by approximately \$13,000,000.

Expenditures for State and local projects under Program Open Space are anticipated to continue at a level which can be met from proceeds of the State Property Transfer Tax.

The General Assembly wishes to reduce authorizations to borrow by the State of Maryland which are no longer necessary.

Pursuant to the policy that unnecessary authorizations to borrow should be repealed:

(a) The General Assembly, by Chapter 563 of 1979, reduced the total authorization to borrow for Program Open Space from \$88,000,000 to \$56,000,000, thereby leaving an outstanding aggregate loan authorization of \$36,000,000; and