WHEREAS, IN RECOGNITION OF A NEED FOR A LIMITED FEDERAL ROLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THIS BRIDGE AND THE GROWING LOCAL INTEREST, THE U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION HAS RECOMMENDED A TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY AND OWNERSHIP FROM THE FEDERAL TO THE LOCAL/STATE LEVEL, CONSISTENT WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF OTHER BRIDGES ELSEWHERE IN THE NATION; AND

WHEREAS, A COMMISSION COMPRISED OF CONGRESSIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AND TRANSPORTATION REPRESENTATIVES HAS RECOMMENDED TRANSFER OF THE WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE TO AN INDEPENDENT AUTHORITY TO BE CREATED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND, THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA; AND

WHEREAS, A COORDINATED APPROACH WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICAL AND LEGAL JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES, THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND AND, THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA; AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BY AND THROUGH A COMMON AGENCY SIMILAR TO OTHER WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA AUTHORIFIES, AN INSTRUMENTALITY AND COMMON AGENCY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA AND THE STATE OF MARYLAND IS A PROPER AND NECESSARY STEP LOOKING TOWARDS THE ALLEVIATION OF TRAFFIC PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE INADEQUACY OF THE EXISTING WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE; NOW, THEREFORE, THE STATES OF MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, HEREAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE SIGNATORIES, COVENANT AND AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE AND TUNNEL COMPACT

CHAPTER I

GENERAL COMPACT PROVISIONS

ARTICLE I

THERE IS HEREBY CREATED THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE AND TUNNEL AUTHORITY, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "AUTHORITY;" WHICH SHALL EMBRACE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THE CITIES OF ALEXANDRIA, FAIRFAX, AND FALLS CHURCH, THE COUNTIES OF ARLINGTON AND FAIRFAX, AND THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF WIRGINIA LOCATED WITHIN THOSE COUNTIES, AND THE COUNTIES OF MONTGOMERY AND PRINCE GEORGE'S IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND AND THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND LOCATED WITHIN THOSE COUNTIES.

ARTICLE II

THE AUTHORITY SHALL BE AN INSTRUMENTALITY AND COMMON AGENCY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, AND THE STATE OF MARYLAND, AND SHALL HAVE THE POWERS AND DUTIES SET FORTH IN THIS COMPACT AND SUCH ADDITIONAL POWERS AND DUTIES AS MAY BE CONFERRED UPON IT BY SUBSEQUENT ACTION OF THE SIGNATORIES.