(5)   Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from·funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. The fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 1999, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1997.

Approved April 29, 1997.

CHAPTER 214

(House Bill 83)

AN ACT concerning

Natural Resources – Authority Over Abandoned Vessels – Prohibiting Delegation to Local Jurisdictions

FOR the purpose of prohibiting limiting the authority of the Department of Natural Resources from delegating to delegate ·to a local jurisdiction the Department's authority over abandoned vessels to cases where the local jurisdiction consents to the delegation; and generally relating to abandoned vessels.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
      Article – Natural Resources
      Section 8–721(h)
      Annotated Code of Maryland
      (1990 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: