

(2) THE PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING WAS PERFORMED:

(I) VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT COMPENSATION;

(II) AT THE SCENE OF A DECLARED NATIONAL, STATE, OR LOCAL EMERGENCY CAUSED BY A MAJOR EARTHQUAKE, HURRICANE, TORNADO, FIRE, EXPLOSION, COLLAPSE, OR SIMILAR DISASTER OR CATASTROPHIC EVENT; AND

(III) AT THE REQUEST OF A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL, PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIAL, OR FIRE OFFICIAL, OR BUILDING INSPECTION OFFICIAL, ACTING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY.

(C) THE IMMUNITY PROVIDED BY THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO THE VOLUNTARY PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING PERFORMED ~~WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE EMERGENCY, DISASTER, OR CATASTROPHIC EVENT, UNLESS EXTENDED BY AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ISSUED BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER THE GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE POWERS~~ WHILE A DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY IS IN EFFECT.

(D) (1) THIS SECTION DOES NOT CREATE, AND MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED AS CREATING, A NEW CAUSE OF ACTION OR SUBSTANTIVE LEGAL RIGHT AGAINST A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER.

(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT AFFECT, AND MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AFFECTING, ANY IMMUNITIES FROM CIVIL LIABILITY OR DEFENSES ESTABLISHED BY ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE CODE OR AVAILABLE AT COMMON LAW, TO WHICH A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER MAY BE ENTITLED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any cause of action arising before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 2: 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved April 29, 1997.

CHAPTER 278

(House Bill 1127)

AN ACT concerning

Creation of a State Debt – Baltimore Neighborhood Recreation Facility

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$400,000 ~~\$200,000~~ \$350,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for certain acquisition, development, or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.