

total authorized amount established in the budget for the Maryland Department of Transportation at any one time during Fiscal Year 1998. The level of 326.52 contractual full-time equivalents may be exceeded only if the Maryland Department of Transportation notifies the budget committees of the need and justification for additional contractual personnel due to:

- (1) business growth at the Port of Baltimore and BWI Airport which demands additional personnel; or,
- (2) emergency needs which must be met (such as transit security or highway maintenance).

The Secretary shall utilize the authority under the Transportation Article, Sections 2-101 and 2-102, to implement this provision. However, any authorized job or position to be filled above the 8,992.5 permanent position ceiling approved by the Board of Public Works shall count against the Rule of 50 imposed by the General Assembly. The establishment of new jobs or positions of employment not authorized in the Fiscal Year 1998 budget shall be subject to the State Finance and Procurement Article, Section 7-236 and the Rule of 50. Provided, however, that the department may create and fill an additional 78 authorized positions above the ceiling of 8,992.5 which shall not count against the Rule of 50, provided that the Motor Vehicle Administration demonstrates to the budget committees during the 1998 Session on whether the construction of the third branch office in the Metropolitan Washington region shall be completed on a schedule which will require the positions to be filled during Fiscal Year 1998 in order to provide all necessary recruitment and training in preparation of the opening of the branch office.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that funds dedicated to the Transportation Trust