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.

- (6) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of its interest:
- (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust; and
- (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic structures.
- (b) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the Trust and the extent of the interest to be encumbered must be acceptable to the Trust.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2000.

Approved May 11, 2000.

## CHAPTER 488

(House Bill 634)

AN ACT concerning

## Nursing Homes - Sanctions and Penalties

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to impose certain sanctions for certain deficiencies found in nursing homes; defining certain terms; authorizing the Department to appoint an independent nursing home monitor under certain circumstances; establishing the burden of proof for the imposition of fines; requiring the Office of Administrative Hearings to render a decision within a certain time after a hearing; providing for a penalty discount under certain circumstances; establishing a Health Care Quality Account funded by certain penalties; establishing certain monetary penalties for certain deficiencies; authorizing the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to utilize certain monetary fines for programs to improve the quality of care; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to sanctions for certain deficiencies in nursing homes.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19–1401, 19–1402, and 19–1404 through 19–1407, and 19-1405 to be under the amended subtitle "Subtitle 14. Nursing Homes"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY repealing