

**CHAPTER 334**  
**(House Bill 887)**

AN ACT concerning

**Real Property - ~~Unpossessed-Vacant~~ Abandoned Land - Certificate of  
Reservation for Public Use**

FOR the purpose of providing that, with respect to ~~unpossessed-vacant~~ abandoned land, a certificate of reservation for public use remains in effect until a unit of State government or a court of competent jurisdiction determines that a person who has claimed legal title to the land has established legal title to the land; authorizing a person who claims legal title to ~~unpossessed-vacant~~ abandoned land for which a certificate of reservation for public use has been issued to file a certain written claim under certain circumstances; requiring that if a unit of State government that reserved land for public use determines that a claimant has legal title to the land, the unit of State government shall either ~~may~~ make a certain payment to the claimant or notify the Commissioner of Land Patents that the land is no longer needed for public use; providing that ~~any action~~ certain actions taken by a unit of State government ~~pursuant to~~ under this Act ~~is~~ are subject to approval by the Board of Public Works; requiring that, if a unit of State government that reserved land for public use determines that the claimant does not have legal title to the property, the unit of State government shall issue a written denial of the claimant's claim; authorizing a claimant who is aggrieved by the denial of a claim under this Act to file a certain action; providing that a claim under this Act is barred unless the claimant files a claim within a certain amount of time; authorizing an applicant for a certificate of reservation for public use of ~~unpossessed-vacant~~ abandoned land to submit a certain legal description of the land in lieu of a certain survey; providing that certain provisions of the law related to escheated property do not apply to any portion of a decedent's estate comprised of land that is the subject of an application for a certificate of reservation for public use; authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to apply for a certificate of reservation for public use of ~~unpossessed-vacant~~ abandoned land; defining certain terms; and generally relating to ~~unpossessed-vacant~~ abandoned land and certificates of reservation for public use.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Real Property

Section 13-101, 13-106, and 13-306

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Real Property

Section 13-107

Annotated Code of Maryland