

Mr. Clark S. Hobbs, Chairman, Baltimore Redevelopment Commission (cont'd)

This grant of authority presents difficulty as to the interpretation when compared with other sections of local and State laws pertaining to the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission. Specific reference is made to Paragraph 6, sub-paragraph 25 of the Baltimore City Charter of 1946 where it states in sub-paragraph 25 (d) that -

"the Commission shall have no power to use the faith and credit of Baltimore City or State of Maryland in acquiring either by purchase, lease or condemnation and shall not have or exercise any taxing power."

Also reference is made to Article 11B, Section 1 (f) (Maryland Constitution) of the 1947 Cumulative Supplement of the Annotated Code of Maryland which states that -

"the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission shall have no power to pledge the credit of or in any way bind the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall not be liable in any way or manner whatsoever, for any of the obligations, contracts, or undertakings of the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission."

The proposed Bill No. 131 now in the State Legislature makes no reference to such limitation on the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission but in view of the Constitutional Amendment of Article 11B of the Constitution of Maryland, no such action would be permissible under the above Paragraph (f) of Section 1 of Article 11B.

It is being noted here that Article 11 of the Constitution of Maryland pertaining to the City of Baltimore in Section 7 states:

"From and after the adoption of this Constitution, no debt (except as hereinafter excepted), shall be created by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore; \* \* \* nor shall the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore have the power to involve the City of Baltimore in the construction of works of internal improvement, nor in granting any aid thereto, which shall involve the faith and credit of the City, nor make any appropriations therefor, unless such debt or credit be authorized by an act of the General Assembly of Maryland, and by ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, submitted to the legal voters of the City of Baltimore \* \* \* and approved by the majority of the votes cast \* \* \*."

The local and state laws granting powers to the Baltimore Redevelopment Commission are inconsistent in that certain sections of the state and local laws permit the Commission to petition for loans and grants and other sections of the respective