

tics;" said sections to follow immediately after section 19 of said Article 43, and to be designated as sections 6, 19A, 19B and to repeal sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of said Article 43, title "Health," sub-title "State Registrar of Vital Statistics," and re-enact the same with amendments.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, title "Health," sub-title "State Registrar of Vital Statistics," be and the same are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

SEC. 6. The secretary of the State Board of Health shall be the State Registrar of Vital Statistics for Maryland. He shall under the direction of the State Board of Health prepare the necessary methods, books and forms for accurate registration of births and deaths and shall supply the local registrars, deputy local registrars, health officers, ministers, physicians, undertakers, midwives and other persons charged with any duty under this act, with the proper blanks, forms and books of record. The State Registrar shall collect, permanently bind, preserve and make indices to the records of vital statistics collected by him, and shall tabulate and annually prepare a general abstract and report of the vital statistics for the preceding year so tabulated and arranged as to render them of particular utility, and shall have printed not more than one thousand copies, of which he shall forward five copies each to the Governor and the State librarian, one to each member of the General Assembly of Maryland, one to each local health officer, one to each local registrar, one to each deputy local registrar, one to the Board of Health of each State and territory of the United States, and the remainder to such departments, libraries, and persons as may seem to the State registrar entitled to the same. Such records shall be carefully preserved from loss by fire or other damage.

SEC. 7. Health officers of the various counties shall be ex-officio county registrars of vital statistics. Health officers of all towns and counties shall be ex-officio local registrars of vital statistics, excepting in the case of incorporated cities or towns where by charter or ordinance the method of appointment of a local registrar of vital statistics is specifically designated. All county registrars, local registrars and deputy local registrars of vital statistics shall qualify by oath to per-