

1912, ch. 163.

9. The Circuit Court of the county or the Criminal Court of Baltimore City, as the case may be, shall take such action and shall have authority to direct the issue of such writs as may be appropriate to enforce the bonds provided for by this Article.

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10. Upon the death of the father after giving the bond required in section 5, the Court may, upon the suggestion of the death of the said father, summon the personal representatives and heirs of the said father and the securities upon the bond given as required by section 5, if such parties be within the State, and the mother or other person having charge of the said child, and upon proof being offered to the Court of the amount of the estate of the said decedent father, and upon any other points upon which the Court desires to hear testimony, the Court may, in its discretion, direct and order such sum or sums to be paid to the mother or other person in charge of such child, for the maintenance and support thereof out of the father's estate as may appear to the Court to be just and proper. In no case, however, shall the mother or other person in charge of said child receive more than \$500 or more than one-half the amount that each of his legitimate children, if any, would receive, or more than one-half the amount the descendants, if any, of a deceased legitimate child would receive as a class, if the father had died intestate. All money paid or ordered to be paid under this section shall be charged as a debt or debts against the estate of the said deceased father, upon payment of the sum or sums ordered to be paid by the Court under this section, the bond given under section 5 shall be cancelled and the sureties thereon discharged.

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11. Prosecutions under this article may be commenced within two years from the delivery of the mother of the bastard child, except that where the person accused has made payments for the maintenance and support of the said child, it shall be sufficient if the prosecution be started within two years from the last payment by the accused for the maintenance and support of the said bastard child.

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12. Whenever any principal, surety or other person in interest, upon competent testimony, makes it appear to the satisfaction of any Court in which a bond in any bastardy case is entered upon, that by reason of the death of the child or by reason of the payment of all dues arising under said bond, or for any other reason, the bond should be discharged, the Court may make such order of discharge, annulment or cancellation of the bond, or such other order as may be deemed appropriate by the Court to discharge the obligors on the bond.