

States other than the State of Maryland, or of any foreign country, except telephone, banking, insurance and railroad companies, electric light or construction companies, and oil or pipe line companies, now doing business in the State of Maryland, or which shall desire to commence business in this State, shall, before transacting business in this State, either through an individual, agent or agents or through the agency of any corporation, organized under the laws of this State, or before opening or continuing any office for the transaction of any business in this State, first file in the office of the Secretary of State of Maryland, accompanied by a deposit fee of twenty-five dollars, a duly certified copy of the charter, certificate or act of incorporation, under which it claims the powers to transact business as a corporation, together with a sworn statement from the president or other chief executive officer of such corporation, under its official seal, setting forth the amount of its capital stock authorized by law, and the amount actually issued, the amount of its assets and liabilities, the character of the business to be transacted in this State, designating the place or places of its principal office or offices and the name or names of its agent or agents to reside in this State, with the place or places of their residence, upon whom legal process issued out of any court of this State, may at any time be served in any action, at the suit of the State of Maryland, or of any county or incorporated city or town of this State, or of any citizen or citizens of this State, or of any corporation organized under the laws of this State, which said charter, certificate or act of incorporation, and sworn statement as aforesaid, when received by the Secretary of State, shall be recorded at length by him in a well-bound book to be kept for that purpose, and a copy or copies thereof under the hand and seal of the Secretary of State shall be receivable in evidence in any suit at law or in equity, in any of the courts of this State by or against such foreign corporations, for the purpose of proving the existence or act of incorporation of such foreign corporation as fully as its charter duly certified would do, and also all other facts set forth therein.

1898, ch. 270.

109 B. At the time of receiving said certified copy of said charter, certificate or act of incorporation, together with the