

of Baltimore County, except treason, misprision of treason, arson, burglary, larceny, manslaughter, mayhem, murder, rape, robbery, sodomy, and all other felonies, may be prosecuted, upon order of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County on information, on behalf of the State filed by the State's attorney for said county in said court.

Offences
to be
prosecuted
on infor-
mation

Clerk
to issue
summons

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the clerk of said court shall, upon order of the State's attorney for said county, issue summons for witnesses to appear at the time and place to be designated in said order and the said court shall have the same power as provided by section seven and eight of article thirty-five of the Code of Public General Laws of this state to secure and compel the attendance and testimony of said witnesses, and all witnesses so summoned and appearing and taking the oath provided in the fifth section of this act shall receive the same compensation allowed to witnesses summoned and attending before the grand inquest for said county.

State's
Attorney,
duty of

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the State's attorney shall investigate with all reasonable dispatch and thoroughness all cases which may be referred to him under this act and in all cases which in his judgment should not proceed to trial he shall promptly file in said court an order dismissing any such case referred to him as aforesaid, with a statement in writing of his reasons therefor, and shall return to said court all papers and documents relating to said case in his possession, and such dismissal of a case so referred to him shall be a final and conclusive termination of the same, but the court may, for sufficient reason shown in a reasonable time, strike out the said order and dismissal of a case made by the State's attorney and refer said case to the grand jury.

Pleading
and
practice

SEC. 4. *Be it enacted*, That the same pleading and practice and all provisions of law now applicable to indictments, and governing the trial of issues thereon shall be applicable so far as practicable to information filed under this act by the State's attorney.

Oath to
witnesses

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That the clerk of said court, or the crier thereof, shall administer to every witness, prior to his or her appearing before the State's attorney, the following oath, viz: The evidence which you shall give before the State's attorney for Baltimore County in the matter depending before him shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God; and all wilful and corrupt false swearing by any witness in any material point of inquiry before said State's attorney in any case referred to him under this act shall be deemed perjury,