SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1947.

Approved April 25, 1947.

CHAPTER 599.

(Senate Bill 7)

AN ACT to repeal Sections 78, 78A, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Chancery", sub-title "Infants", Section 78A thereof having been enacted by Ch. 343 of the Acts of 1945, and to enact in lieu thereof 19 new sections, to be under the new sub-title "Adoption", to be known as Sections 85A to 85S, inclusive, and to follow immediately after Section 85 of said Article; and to add a new section to Article 93 of said Code, title "Testamentary Law", sub-title "Distribution", to be known as Section 139A, and to follow immediately after Section 139 of said Article 93; revising the adoption laws of the State, specifying the legal requirements for the adoption of any person, defining the legal rights and obligations of all parties to a proceeding for adoption; and defining the status of an adopted child for purposes of testamentary distribution, and excepting certain counties from the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 78, 78A, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, and 84 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Chancery", sub-title "Infants", Section 78A thereof having been enacted by Ch. 343 of the Acts of 1945, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That 19 new sections be and they are hereby added to said Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Chancery", to be under the new sub-title "Adoption", to be known as Sections 85A to 85S, inclusive, to follow immediately after Section 85 of said Article, and to read as follows:

ADOPTION

85A. (Legislative Policy.) The General Assembly hereby declares its conviction that the policies and procedures for adoption contained in this sub-title are socially necessary and desirable, having as their purpose the three-fold protection of