

for so reproducing the original, the original may be destroyed in the regular course of business unless held in a custodial or fiduciary capacity or unless its preservation is required by law. Such reproduction, when satisfactorily identified, is as admissible in evidence as the original itself in any judicial or administrative proceeding whether the original is in existence or not and an enlargement or facsimile of such reproduction is likewise admissible in evidence if the original reproduction is in existence and available for inspection under direction of the court. The introduction of a reproduced record, enlargement or facsimile, does not preclude admission of the original.

“(b) This section shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose of making uniform the law of those states which enact it.”

Your attention is called also to Chapter 37 Acts of 1951. This act permits the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City an exemption from the rule which requires that the original records of a court of record must be kept permanently. In effect this officer is permitted to destroy the original Land Records if the Archivist refuses to accept them; the Archivist, not willing to see any originals destroyed when he has no control over the character and quality of the photographs, must accept them until he has no more storage space. This bill was sponsored by the Clerk of the Superior Court and the pertinent section follows:

“619. Whenever, from age or wear, any of the record books in the keeping of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City shall be in danger of destruction or obliteration, it shall be the duty of the Clerk of said Court [, when required so to do by the Supreme Bench of said City, to renew any such record book by transcribing the same into new books] *to have a photo copy or photostatic copy made of such record book, which such reproduction shall have the same legal effect as the original record. After such reproduction, the Clerk of said Court shall offer said original record to the State Archivist and if refused by said Archivist, the Clerk may destroy such original record after making and sending a microfilm copy thereof to the State Archivist. The Clerk may pay for the cost of such reproduction and*