

known as Section 63A, to follow immediately after Section 63 of said Article, and to read as follows:

63A. *Any instrument recorded under the provisions of Section 63 of this Article, which is retained in the office of the Clerks of the Circuit Courts for the several counties or the Superior Court of Baltimore City for a period of twenty years after the date when it is recorded, may be destroyed by the respective Clerks after complying with the provisions of Section 153 and 154 of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition).*

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1955.

Explanation:

*Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

Finally, we tried once more to free ourselves from the effects of an opinion of the Attorney General which prevents the destruction of certain types of records even though a microfilm copy has been prepared for permanent retention. The staff of the Attorney General prepared this bill for us and we have otherwise received the utmost cooperation from his office in this critical impasse. But again the General Assembly was unsympathetic. With certain amendments this bill has now received a favorable report from the Judiciary Committee of the Legislative Council, and we are hopeful of its passage in 1956.

## A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 154 of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1954 Supplement), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments", providing for the destruction of all original records or documents of any agency, department, board, or commission of the State of Maryland, or of any County or incorporated municipality thereof without regard to the provisions of any other statute requiring their retention, when they become obsolete and useless.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 154 of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1954 Supplement), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

154. If the Commission shall decline to accept any original papers, official books, records, documents or files offered to it under the provisions of Section 153, then the custodian thereof, with the