

tion complained of, and praying for appropriate relief by way of mandamus or injunction. It shall thereupon be the duty of the Court to specify the time, not exceeding twenty days after service of the petition, within which the common carrier, railroad corporation or street railroad corporation complained of must answer the petition. In case of default in answer, or after answer, the Court shall immediately inquire into the facts and circumstances in such manner as the Court may direct, without other or formal pleadings, and without respect to any technical requirement. Such other persons or corporations as the Court shall deem necessary or proper to join as parties in order to make its order, judgment or writs effective, may be joined as parties upon application of counsel to the Commission. The final judgment in any such action or proceeding shall either dismiss the action or proceedings or direct that a writ of mandamus or an injunction issue, as prayed for in the petition or in such modified or other forms as the Court may determine will afford the appropriate relief.

Any corporation, other than a common carrier, which shall violate any provision of this Act, or shall fail to obey, observe and comply with every order made by the Commission under authority of this Act, so long as the same shall be and remain in force, shall forfeit to the State of Maryland a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars for each and every offense; every such violation shall be a separate and distinct offense, and the penalty or forfeiture thereof shall be recovered in an action as provided in this Section of this Act.

Every person who, either individually or acting as an officer or agent of a corporation or person, other than a common carrier, railroad corporation or street railroad corporation, shall violate any provision of this Act, or fail to obey, observe or comply with any order made by the Commission under this Act, so long as the same shall be or remain in force, or who shall procure or aid or abet any such corporation or person in a violation of this Act, or in a failure to obey, observe or comply with any such order, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

In construing and enforcing the provision of this Act relating to forfeitures and penalties, the act of any director, officer or other person acting for or employed by any common carrier, railroad corporation, street railroad corporation or other corporation subject to this Act, acting within the scope of his official duties or employment, shall be in every case and be deemed to be the act of such common carrier or corporation or person.

An action to recover a penalty or a forfeiture under this Act may be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction in this