

CHAPTER 618.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 186 of Article 23 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, entitled "Corporations," sub-title "Insurance Companies."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 186 of Article 23 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, entitled "Corporations," sub-title "Insurance Companies," be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

186. No corporation or association authorized to transact business in this State, and no co-partnership or individual, resident or non-resident, shall write any policy of insurance, or assume any liability in the matter of insurance upon any property, real or personal, situate in this State, unless such policy, certificate or other evidence of liability assumed by said corporation, association or individual shall have been, previous to delivery, signed or countersigned by an officer or agent, resident in this State, authorized by law to sign such policy or contract; provided, however, that policies issued by railway corporations insuring the rolling stock and other moveable property of said road, and those insuring the liability of such railroads as common carriers, shall be subject to the requirement that they shall be signed by the resident agent in cases only where more than one-half the trackage of the roads operated by such railway companies is situate in the State of Maryland. Every corporation, association, co-partnership and individual, resident or non-resident, engaged in business in this State shall pay to its legally licensed agent or agents, in the State of Maryland, for signing or countersigning any policy, certificate or other evidence of liability assumed by said corporation, association or individual, the same rate and amount of commissions as if such policy, certificate or other evidence of liability had been issued through said agent or agents residing in the State of Maryland; and no agent or agents shall sign or countersign any policy, certificate or other evidence of liability, upon any property situate in this State, for an amount less than the commissions allowed on any policy, certificate or other evidence of liability issued through an agent or agents residing in this State. The premiums on all policies so signed or countersigned shall be included in the report of gross premiums required to be made to the Insurance Commissioner by all companies not organized under the laws of this State. Any person violating the pro-