

fraternal society, library, museum, public school, private school or institution of learning.

SEC. 23. The several sections and provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be independent of each other; and it is the legislative intent that, if any of said sections or provisions are declared to be unconstitutional, such section or provision shall not affect any other portion of this Act.

Approved April 18th, 1916.

CHAPTER 210.

AN ACT to add five new sections to Article 27 of the Code of Public General Laws, sub-title "Crimes and Punishments," to be known as Sections 484, 485, 486, 487 and 488, and to follow immediately after Section 483 thereof, making it unlawful to separate or cause to be separated any child under six months of age from its mother for the purpose of placing such child in a foster home or institution, or to place, receive or retain such child in a foster home or institution, and to regulate the manner and circumstances under which it may be done, and to provide a penalty for violation of said Act; the same to read as follows:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That five new Sections be, and the same are, hereby added to Article 27 of the Code of Public General Laws, sub-title "Crimes and Punishments," to be known as Sections 484, 485, 486, 487 and 488, and to follow immediately after Section 483 thereof, and to read as follows:

Section 484. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That it shall be unlawful to separate a child under the age of six months from its mother for the purpose of placing such child in a foster home or institution for the maintenance of such child, or to assist or participate in such separation, or to place, receive or retain any child in a foster home or institution for the maintenance of such child, or to assist or participate in so placing, receiving or retaining such child; unless it be necessary for the physical good of the mother or of such child that they be separated or that such child be placed, received or retained in a foster home or institution for the maintenance of such child, and two physicians, quali-