

Section 6. Any citizen of the United States or person who has declared his intention of becoming such citizen, over the age of twenty-one years, who holds a valid and unrevoked certificate as a certified public accountant, or the equivalent thereof, issued by or under the authority of any State of the United States, or the District of Columbia, or any territory of the United States, or by or under the authority of a foreign nation, showing that the holder thereof has complied with the laws of such State, district, territory or nation, who desires to practice the profession of accountancy in the State of Maryland, shall present such certificate or its equivalent to the board of examiners of certified public accountants of this State, accompanied by a written application in form to be prescribed by the said board, with such information as said board may require as to the character and qualification of such applicant, and shall pay the said board the fee usually charged for examinations, and if the said board shall be satisfied that the standing of the said applicant and the requirements for a certificate as a certified public accountant of the State, district, territory, or nation issuing the same are substantially equivalent to those established by the laws of this State, the said board may, in its discretion, register said certificate in a book to be provided by the said board for said purposes, and shall recommend to the Governor the issuance to such applicant of a special certificate of registration designating the State, district, territory or nation issuing the original certificate to said applicant, which special certificate of registration, when issued by the Governor, shall entitle the holder to practice as such certified public accountant, and use the abbreviation "C. P. A." in this State; provided, however, that no such special certificate shall be issued unless the State, district, territory or nation issuing the original certificate extends similar privileges to the certified public accountants of the State of Maryland.

Section 7. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof in any Court having criminal jurisdiction, shall be fined not less than Fifty Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred Dollars, or be confined not more than six months in the county jail, or if the conviction takes place in Baltimore City, in the Baltimore City Jail, in the discretion of the Court.

Section 8. Nothing in this Act shall be taken or construed to in any way invalidate or otherwise affect any certificate held