

as Section 33 (the old Section 33 having been repealed by Chapter 530 of the Acts of 1929) to prohibit the importation, breeding sale or distribution within the State of Maryland of birds of the psittacine family.

WHEREAS, the disease known as psittacosis has been prevalent throughout the country and outbreaks have occurred in the City of Baltimore, in certain counties of Maryland and also in the District of Columbia, and

WHEREAS, since that time it has been the policy of the State Board of Health in cooperation with other agencies both within and without the State to make every effort to curb this disease and control the spread of this infection by isolation of diseased birds and interstate certification and inspection, and

WHEREAS, careful laboratory studies reveal that there is no practical method of insuring the shipment of uninfected birds by any system of inspection because healthy birds may be carriers of the virus; and the State of New York has prohibited these birds within its jurisdiction, which may have resulted in making Baltimore City a major port of entry for their importation; and to obviate this possibility the City of Baltimore recently passed an ordinance banning these birds within the city; therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new section be and it is hereby added to Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland title "Health", subtitle "Miscellaneous Provisions", said new section to be known as Section 33 and to read as follows:

33. No person shall bring into the State of Maryland or offer for sale, sell, give away or breed within the limits of this State, parrots, parrakeets, love birds, macaws, cockatoos, lorries, lorikeets and other birds of the psittacine family; provided that under such rules and regulations as the State Board of Health may duly pass, zoological gardens operated under public authority or laboratories, in which scientific research is being carried out, and any persons who breed psittacine birds for non-commercial purposes, may receive or import birds of the psittacine family. All birds having psittacosis or which are suspected of being carriers of psittacosis virus, and all birds of a psittacine family exposed to a bird having psittacosis or found or harbored on the same premises where infection with psittacosis virus is discovered or suspected, shall be immediately destroyed, under such rules and regulations as the State Board of Health may pass to carry out the purposes of this section; provided that, insofar as this Act prohibits the