

Chief of Engineers and Secretary of War of the United States of America to the extent that such approval is required by any laws of the United States of America.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall be declared to be an emergency Act and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, and being passed by a yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved May 2, 1941.

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CHAPTER 648.

(House Bill 442)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 65 of Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Workmen's Compensation", sub-title "Claims and Compensation; Benefits", relating to certain employees who may waive the benefit of this Article.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 65 of Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Workmen's Compensation", sub-title "Claims and Compensation; Benefits", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

65. No employer or employee who is subject to the provisions of this Article shall exempt himself from the burden or waive the benefit of this Article by any contract, agreement, rule or regulation, and any such contract, agreement, rule or regulation shall be pro tanto void; except that an employee who has previously sustained any injury or a partial disability may, by a written contract freely and voluntarily entered into by him and executed in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, waive the benefit of this Article as to any subsequent injury naturally and proximately caused by such previous injury or disability. No agreement by such employee to pay any portion of the premium paid by such employer shall be valid, and any employer who deducts any portion of such premium from the wages or salary of any employee entitled to the benefits of this Article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars for each offense.