

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 11 of Article 13 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes", sub-title "Legal Holidays", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

11. It shall be lawful for banks and bankers in the State of Maryland to close their doors for business at twelve o'clock noon on each and every Saturday in the year, and every Saturday in the year after twelve o'clock noon, shall, for all purposes whatever, so far as regards the presenting for payment or acceptance and the protesting and giving notice of the dishonor of bills of exchange, bank checks, drafts, promissory notes and other negotiable paper, be a legal half-holiday, and shall be treated and considered as the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, and all such bills, checks, drafts and notes, which, on their face, or under any existing law shall be payable or presentable for acceptance or payment on any half-holiday Saturday shall be deemed to be payable or presentable for acceptance or payment, and notice of protest and dishonor thereof may be given on the next succeeding secular or business day; provided, that checks and paper payable at sight, or on demand, presentable for payment on half-holiday Saturday may, at the option of the holder thereof, be payable and presentable for acceptance or payment on such half-holiday Saturday before twelve o'clock noon; provided, further, that for the purpose of protesting or otherwise holding liable any party to any such check or paper payable at sight, or on demand, presentable for payment on any half-holiday Saturday, and which shall have been presented and dishonored on such half-holiday Saturday, notice of protest and dishonor thereof may be given on the next succeeding secular or business day; and provided further, that whenever any person shall receive for collection any bill of exchange, bank check, draft or promissory note due and presentable for acceptance or payment on any half-holiday Saturday, such person shall not be deemed guilty of any neglect or omission of duty, or incur any liability in not presenting for payment or acceptance, or collecting such bill of exchange, bank check, draft or promissory note on that day; and provided further that in construing this section, every half-holiday Saturday shall, until twelve o'clock noon, be deemed as a secular or business day, provided, however, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to Baltimore, Caroline, Howard and Talbot Counties.