

payment of certain costs before letters testamentary or letters of administration are issued out of the Orphans' Court of Harford County, except under certain conditions provided herein; providing a penalty for a false oath in connection with said exceptions, and making this Act an emergency measure.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new Section be added to Article 13 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Harford County," sub-title "Orphans' Court," said new Section to follow Section 433 and to be known as Section 433A and to read as follows:

433A. No letters testamentary or letters of administration of any sort shall issue out of the Orphans' Court of Harford County unless and until the Register of Wills for said County shall have first been paid all of the regular scheduled costs incident to the issuing of such letters, including the sum of \$3.50 for appointing appraisers and on account of recording the inventory or inventories required to be filed. In case of persons dying testate the regular schedule costs for recording the testamentary instrument or instruments shall likewise be paid prior to the issuance of any letters.

In cases, however, where the person seeking to take out letters testamentary or letters of administration is financially unable to pay the said costs, and files a statement under oath in writing, that he is unable to pay said costs, the Orphans' Court or Register of Wills in the recess of said Court, may file the papers mentioned herein without first collecting the costs; provided, however, that any willful false swearing in any oath or affidavit under the provisions of this section shall be punishable as perjury under the provisions of the criminal law now or hereafter in force in Maryland.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and being passed upon a ye and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved March 11, 1943.