

dred dollars, in the discretion of the court; and provided further that any minister or other person so performing such marriage ceremony who shall fail to return within the period of five days from the date of such marriage to the Clerk of the Court issuing said license one of the certificates of marriage mentioned in Section 4 of this Article shall on conviction thereof be fined not less than ten dollars.

In case no such certificate is returned within a period of thirty days from the date of issuance of the marriage license to which it was affixed, the Clerk of the Court issuing said license shall take such steps as may be necessary to ascertain whether or not a marriage ceremony has been performed, and if so, the name of the minister or other official performing said ceremony.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1945.

Approved February 9, 1945.

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## CHAPTER 68.

(Senate Bill 56)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 41 of Article 21 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Conveyancing", sub-title "Mortgages", relating to the time which Clerks of Courts shall be required to keep mortgages with releases thereon.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 41 of Article 21 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Conveyancing", sub-title "Mortgages", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

41. When the mortgage, with the release thereon, is filed for the purpose of recording the release, the clerk shall retain such mortgage in his office and not permit the same to be again withdrawn for a period of twenty-five (25) years, after which time he may destroy it; provided, however, that if the release is partial in its character, after the recording of the same, the clerk may permit the mortgage to be withdrawn.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1945.

Approved February 9, 1945.