

whole or in part, the proceeds shall be accounted for and remitted to the State Treasurer.

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

Approved April 23, 1945.

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CHAPTER 719.

(Senate Bill 539)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 89 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments," sub-title "Desertion of Wife or Child," to provide that persons charged with desertion and non-support may be prosecuted in the jurisdiction where the defendant or the wife or the child resides.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 89 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments," sub-title "Desertion of Wife or Child," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

89. Any person who shall without just cause desert or wilfully neglect to provide for the support and maintenance of his wife or minor child shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction in any court of the State having criminal jurisdiction shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or imprisonment in the Maryland House of Correction, or in Jail, for not more than three years, or both, in the discretion of the Court. Any person charged with a violation of this section may be prosecuted in the jurisdiction where he or the wife or the child resides. The fine may be directed by the Court to be paid in whole or in part to the wife; provided, that before the trial with the consent of the defendant, or after conviction, instead of imposing the punishment hereinbefore provided, or in addition thereto, the Court in its discretion, having regard to the circumstances and financial ability of the defendant, shall have the power to pass an order which shall be subject to change by it from time to time, as the circumstances may require, directing the defendant to pay a certain sum