SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 158 of Article 75 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Pleading, Practice and Process at Law", sub-title "Process", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

158. No person shall be sued out of the county in which he resides until the sheriff or coroner of the county in which he resides shall have returned a non est on a summons issued in such county; provided, that nothing herein contained shall apply to any person who shall abscond from justice in the county where he lives, but such person may be sued in any county where he may be found; and provided further, that any person who resides in one county but carries on any regular business, or habitually engages in any avocation or employment in another county, may be sued in either county, whether before a justice of the peace or in a court of law or equity; this section not to apply to ejectment, dower, replevin, scire facias on judgment or decree, nor to heirs, devisees or terretenants, against whom process may be issued to another county.

In any action ex delicto in which all the defendants are not residents of, not carrying on regular business in, or habitually engaged in any avocation or employment in one county, the plaintiff may, at his election, sue all said defendants in the county where the cause of action arose *or sue all of the said defendants in the county where any one of the defendants reside.* As used in this section the term "county" includes "Baltimore City".

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1954.

Approved March 12, 1954.

CHAPTER 61

(House Bill 153)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 40 of Article 63 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Mechanics' Lien", sub-title "Merchandise", reducing the waiting period required for the collection of liens upon certain articles of merchandise.

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.
CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.