

77 in lieu thereof, said new section to stand in the place and stead of the section so repealed, correcting an error in said section in order to make it conform to its provisions as last amended by Chapter 446 of the Acts of 1949 and further providing that Sections 76 to 94, inclusive, of said Article 16 shall be under the sub-title "Adoption."

WHEREAS, in the codification of the 1951 Edition of the Annotated Code of Maryland an amendment to Section 77 of Article 16 was inadvertently omitted; and

WHEREAS, this section was amended by Chapter 446 of the Acts of 1949; and

WHEREAS, Although there is no doubt as to the effectiveness of Chapter 446 of 1949, it would save confusion to amend this section of the Code in order to codify the provisions of the Act of 1949; and

WHEREAS, the caption "Adoption" was omitted from Sections 76 to 94, inclusive, of said Article 16 which omission also should be corrected for purposes of clarification; now therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 77 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Chancery", sub-title "Adoption", be and it is hereby repealed and that a new Section 77 be and it is hereby enacted in lieu thereof, said new section to stand in the place and stead of the section so repealed, and to read as follows:*

#### ADOPTION

*77. (Jurisdiction and Venue.) The Circuit Courts of the several counties of this State, sitting in equity, and any court of Baltimore City having equity jurisdiction, shall have jurisdiction of all petitions for adoption under this sub-title. Any such petition may be filed in the county, or in Baltimore City, as the case may be, in which (1) the petitioner or petitioners have their domicile; or (2) the person to be adopted is domiciled; or (3) any lawfully licensed child placement agency, having legal or physical care, custody or control of the person to be adopted is located; or (4) such petition may be filed in any court having equity jurisdiction which had prior to the filing of the petition for adoption assumed a continuing jurisdiction over the custody of the person to be adopted. Provided,*