

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new section be and the same is hereby added to Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Insurance", sub-title "Life, Accident and Health Insurance", said new section to be known as Section 149A, to follow immediately after Section 149 of said Article, and to read as follows:

149A. (*Definitions.*) *In this Article: (a) "Life Insurance" means every insurance upon the lives of human beings and every insurance appertaining thereto. The business of life insurance shall be deemed to include the granting of endowment benefits; additional benefits in the event of dismemberment or loss of sight or in the event of death by accident or accidental means; additional benefits operating to safeguard the contract from lapse, or to provide a special surrender value, or special benefit, or annuity, in the event of total and permanent disability of the insured; and optional modes of settlement of proceeds. A "life insurance policy" is a contract providing for "life insurance" as defined in this subsection.*

(b) *"Annuities" means all agreements to make periodical payments where the making or continuance of all or of some of a series of such payments, or the amount of any such payment, is dependent upon the continuance of human life, except payments made under the authority of Sub-section (a) of this section. The business of annuities shall be deemed to include additional benefits operating to safeguard the contract from lapse, or to provide a special surrender value, or special benefit, or annuity, in the event of total and permanent disability of the holder. An "annuity contract" is a contract providing for an "annuity" as defined in this sub-section.*

(c) *"Accident and Sickness Insurance" or "Accident and Health Insurance" means insurance against loss resulting from bodily injury or death by accident, or from sickness, or from both. Throughout this Article, except in the case of additional disability and accidental death benefits which may be included in life insurance policies and annuity contracts in accordance with subsections (a) and (b) of this section and except where the context indicates otherwise, whenever a section makes reference to any of the following types of insurance: "accident and sickness insurance", "accident and health insurance", "insurance against disability from accident and sickness", "insurance against accident, sickness and disability", "insurance against disability as a result of disease, accident, or old age", "insurance of persons against disability from accident and sickness", "accident or health insurance", "health and accident insurance", "hospitalization insurance", "sickness or disability insurance", "insurance against bodily injury, disablement, or death by accident, or against disablement resulting from sickness or old age, and every insurance appertaining thereto", it shall be construed to apply to "accident and sickness insurance" as defined in this subsection. An "accident and sickness insurance policy" is a contract providing for "accident and sickness insurance" as defined in this subsection.*

(d) *"Premium" as used in connection with any contracts defined in Sub-sections (a), (b) and (c) of this section means all sums charged, received, or deposited as consideration for such contract or the continuance thereof.*