

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall not be construed to extend or apply to any offenses occurring prior to the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect on June 1, 1957.

Approved March 18, 1957.

CHAPTER 237

(House Bill 36)

AN ACT to add new Article 15B to the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), said new Article to follow immediately after Article 15A thereof and to be entitled "Uniform Preservation of Private Business Records Act", enacting the Uniform Preservation of Private Business Records Act and relating generally thereto and to private business records and to their retention and destruction.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That new Article 15B be and it is hereby added to the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), said new Article to follow immediately after Article 15A thereof and to be entitled "Uniform Preservation of Private Business Records Act" and to read as follows:

Uniform Preservation of Private Business Records Act

1. *As used in this Article:*

(a) "*Business*" includes every kind of private business, profession, occupation, calling or operation of private institutions, whether carried on for profit or not.

(b) "*Person*" means an individual, partnership, corporation, or any other association.

(c) "*Records*" or "*Business Records*" include books of account, vouchers, documents, cancelled checks, payrolls, correspondence, records of sales, personnel, equipment and production, reports relating to any or all of such records, and other business papers.

(d) "*Reproduction*" means a reproduction or durable medium for making a reproduction obtained by any photographic, photostatic, microfilm, micro-card, miniature photographic or other process which accurately reproduces or forms a durable medium for so reproducing the original.

2. *Unless a specific period is designated by law for their preservation, business records which persons by the laws of this State are required to keep or preserve may be destroyed after the expiration of*

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.