

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted, That Sections 18 and 19 of Article 51 of the Code, title "Juries", sub-title "Qualification and Selection of Jurors", be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:*

18.

In all criminal cases called for trial in any court in which a jury shall be necessary, according to the Constitution and laws of this State, *other than cases in which the offense charged is punishable by death or confinement in the penitentiary*, twenty persons from the panel of petit jurors shall be drawn by ballot by the clerk under the direction of the court, and the names of the twenty persons shall be written upon two lists, and one of said lists forthwith delivered to the respective parties or their counsel in the cause; and the said parties or their counsel *shall each be permitted four peremptory challenges in accordance with Rule 746 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure* [may each strike out four persons from the said lists] and the remaining twelve persons shall thereupon be immediately empaneled and sworn as the petit jury in such cause. *If the trial is for an offense punishable by death or confinement in the penitentiary, such additional names shall be added to the panel of petit jurors as may be necessary to enable the parties to exercise their right of peremptory challenge in accordance with Rule 746 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.*

19.

If the said parties or their counsel, or either of them, shall neglect or refuse to strike out from the said lists the number of persons directed in [§ 18] *Rule 746 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure*, the court may direct the clerk to strike out from the list of the party so neglecting or refusing the number in said *Rule* [section] directed, and the remaining twelve persons shall be empaneled and sworn as aforesaid; but this Section and [§ 18] *the said Rule 746* shall not take away the right of any person to challenge the array or polls of any panel returned in the manner allowed by the laws of this State.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted, That a new Section SECTIONS 15A AND 15B be added to Article 75 of the Code, title "Pleadings, Practice and Process at Law", sub-title "III. Practice", sub-heading "Abatement and Revivor", to follow immediately after Section 15 thereof and to read as follows:*

15A. NO ACTION OF EJECTMENT, WASTE, PARTITION, DOWER, REPLEVIN, OR ANY PERSONAL ACTION SHALL ABATE BY THE DEATH OF EITHER OR ANY OF THE PARTIES TO SUCH ACTION. THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO ACTIONS OF SLANDER. THIS SECTION SHALL BE RETROACTIVE SO AS TO APPLY TO THE DEATH OF ANY PARTY PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

~~15A.~~ B.

No action brought to recover damages for injuries to the person by negligence or default shall abate by reason of the death of the plaintiff, but the personal representatives of the deceased may be sub-