ment company or owned or controlled subsidiary of such insurer, and each rating organization, as often as he deems advisable. He shall so examine each domestic insurer not less frequently than every four (4) three (3) years. YEARS IN THE CASE OF LIFE INSURERS, AND THREE (3) YEARS IN THE CASE OF OTHER THAN LIFE INSURERS. Examination of an alien insurer may be limited to its insurance transactions and affairs in the United States. Examination of a reciprocal insurer may also include examination of its attorney in fact insofar as the transactions of the attorney in fact relate to the insurer.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1965.

Approved April 8, 1965.

## CHAPTER 461

(Senate Bill 20)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 271(c) of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume), title "Insurance Code," subtitle "17. Stock and Mutual Insurers," and to add new Section 272(e) to the said Article and subtitle of the Code, to follow immediately after Section 272(d) thereof, to change the requirements and conditions for approval of articles of consolidation or merger of stock insurance companies and for approval of agreements of consolidation or merger of mutual insurance companies by the State Insurance Commissioner.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 271(c) of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume), title "Insurance Code," subtitle "17. Stock and Mutual Insurers," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; and that a new Section 272(e) be and it is hereby added to said Article and subtitle of the Code, to follow immediately after Section 272(d) thereof, and all to read as follows:

271.

(c) [No such articles of consolidation or merger shall be operative until the Commissioner, by written endorsement thereon, approves the articles as being in accordance with the insurance laws of Maryland.] Prior to approval of the articles of consolidation or merger, the Commissioner shall conduct such examination and review of the affairs of companies involved in the consolidation or merger as he finds to be necessary or to be desirable and may hold a hearing upon the proposed consolidation or merger after giving such notice as he deems appropriate. If the Commissioner finds the articles to be in accordance with this Code and he is satisfied that the policyholders in the surviving or consolidated insurer are protected through adequate reserves and assets for losses and claims then anticipated, he shall approve the articles by written endorsement thereon before the