

CHAPTER 79

(Senate Bill 761)

AN ACT to repeal subsections (a), (b) and (c) of Section 74A of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments," subtitle "Maryland Seal," and to enact new subsections (a), (b) and (c) in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the subsections so repealed, revising the description of the obverse and reverse sides of the Great Seal of Maryland.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That subsections (a), (b) and (c) of Section 74A of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments," subtitle "Maryland Seal," be and they are hereby repealed; and that new subsections (a), (b) and (c) of said Article, Code, title and subtitle be and they are hereby enacted to stand in the place of the subsections so repealed and to read as follows:

74A.

(a) *The Seal heretofore and now in use and known as the Great Seal of Maryland is legalized and adopted as the official seal of the State of Maryland. Its official and heraldic description is given in subsections (b) and (c) which appear below.*

(b) *The obverse of the Seal (never used officially)—An equestrian figure of the Lord Proprietary, arrayed in complete armour and bearing a drawn sword in his hand. The caparisons of the horse are adorned with the family coat of arms. On the ground below is represented a sparse growth of grass on sandy soil, with a few small blue and yellow flowers. On the circle, surrounding the obverse of the Seal, is the Latin inscription "Caecilius Absolutus Dominus Terrae Mariae et Avaloniae Baro de Baltimore," meaning "Cecil absolute lord of Maryland and Avalon Baron of Baltimore: (Avalon refers to Lord Baltimore's first settlement in the new world, in Newfoundland).*

(c) *On the reverse of the Seal (used as the official Seal of Maryland) is Lord Baltimore's hereditary coat of arms. The first and fourth quarters represent the arms of the Calvert family described in heraldic language as a paly of six pieces, or (gold) and sable (black) a bend counter changed. The first and fourth quarters are the left hand top quarter and the right hand bottom quarter. The second and third quarters show the arms of the Crossland family, which Cecil inherited from his grandmother, Alicia, wife of Leonard Calvert, the father of George, first Lord Baltimore. This coat of arms is in quarters also, argent (silver) and gules (red) a cross bottony (boutonnee, with a button or a three-leaf clover at the end of each radius of the cross) counter-changed. Above the shield is placed an Earl's coronet (indicating that though only a baron in England, Calvert was an earl or count palatine in Maryland). Above that, a helmet set full faced and over that the Calvert crest, (two pennons, the dexter or the right one or (gold), the other sable (black) staffs gules (red) issuing from the ducal coronet). The supporters of the shield are a plowman and a fisherman with their hands on the shield,*