

ployed by him shall not be required to, and shall not voluntarily, disclose or divulge the contents of any communication made to him by any person employing him to examine, audit or report on any books, records, accounts or statements nor any information derived therefrom in rendering professional service; provided that nothing in this section shall be taken or construed as modifying, changing or affecting the criminal laws of this State or the bankruptcy laws.

【21.】 22. DEFINITIONS

(a) When used in this article:

(b) "Board" means the Maryland State Board of Public Accountancy provided for in Section 1, under its present or former name.

(c) "Certified public accountant" or "public accountant" means a person holding a certificate in good standing as a Maryland certified public accountant, or a special certificate of registration, or holding a certificate as a Maryland registered public accountant as referred to in Section 7, issued under this article or any prior law of Maryland, unless otherwise specified.

(d) "Enrollment certificate" means a certificate which has been issued by the Board under Section **【10】 11** as evidence that the person or partnership named therein has been enrolled to practice public accounting, and which has not expired or been revoked or suspended.

(e) "State" includes any state, territory or insular possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

【22.】 23. CONSTRUCTION

If any provision of this article or the application thereof to any one or to any circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the article which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this article are declared to be severable.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That nothing in this Act shall be construed or applied to change or interfere with the tenure of the economist member of the Maryland State Board of Public Accountancy who holds that position on the effective date of this Act, for the remainder of his regular tenure therein. When his term expires an economist shall not be appointed to this place on the Board, but as provided in Section 1 of Article 75A of the Code, as amended by this Act, a certified public accountant shall be appointed to this place on the Board.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1970.

Approved May 21, 1970.

CHAPTER 678 (Senate Bill 588)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 650 (b) of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replace-