

pulsory payment of property damage claims arising from motor vehicle accidents when there is no dispute as to the liability therefor or amount thereof regardless of whether an injury claim or suit is pending.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 384B be and it is hereby added to Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume), title, "Insurance Code" subtitle "The Insurance Contract; General" to follow immediately after Section 384A thereof and to read as follows:

*384B. Mandatory Settlement of Property Damage Claims.*

*No claim for damage to property resulting from a motor vehicle accident shall be denied or payment therefor delayed because the person who is entitled to payment or any other person has a claim pending for bodily injury which may have arisen from the same or any other accident. Whenever an insurer has the appropriate motor vehicle coverage for the party liable and there is no significant dispute as to either the liability for the payment of the full property damages or the amount of the monetary equivalent of these damages, then the amount payable shall immediately be due and owing and shall promptly be paid by the insurer.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1970.

Approved May 21, 1970.

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CHAPTER 683  
(Senate Bill 744)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 11 of Article 57 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume), title "Limitations of Actions," to increase the time for prosecution of certain misdemeanors.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 11 of Article 57 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume), title "Limitations of Actions," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

11.

No prosecution or suit shall be commenced for any fine, penalty or forfeiture, or any misdemeanor, except those punished by confinement in the penitentiary, unless within one year from the time of the offense committed; *except that prosecutions for violations of Sections 110 and 111 of Article 66½ of the Code, as amended from time to time, may be brought within two years from the time the offense is committed.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1970.

Approved May 21, 1970.