

new subtitle "Separability of Provisions," generally revising, and relating to, the laws concerning discrimination in housing and real property and the enforcement of said laws.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Sections 21, 22, 24, 25, 26 and 27 of Article 49B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume and 1970 Supplement), title "Human Relations Commission," subtitle "Discrimination in Housing," be and they are hereby repealed, and that new Sections 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 be and they are hereby enacted in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the sections repealed; that Section 28 of said Article and title, subtitle "Enactment of Local Ordinances," be and it is hereby repealed, and that new Section 29 be and it is hereby enacted in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the section repealed; that new Section 22A be and it is hereby added to said Article and title, subtitle "Discrimination in Housing," to follow immediately after Section 22 thereof; and that new Section 30 be and it is hereby added to said Article and title, to follow immediately after Section 29 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "Separability of Provisions," and all to read as follows:*

21.

(a) *It is the policy of the State of Maryland to provide for fair housing throughout the State of Maryland, to all its citizens, regardless of race, color, religion or national origin; and to that end to prohibit discriminatory practices with respect to residential housing by any person or group of persons, in order that the peace, health, safety, prosperity and general welfare of all the inhabitants of the State may be protected and insured. This law shall be deemed an exercise of the police power of the State of Maryland for the protection of the people of the State, and shall be administered and enforced by the State of Maryland Commission on Human Relations.*

(b) *For purposes of this subtitle:*

(1) *" Dwelling " means any building, structure, or portion thereof which is occupied as, or designed or intended for occupancy as a residence by one or more families, and any vacant land which is offered for sale or lease for the construction or location thereon of any such building, structure, or portion thereof.*

(2) *" Family " includes a single individual.*

(3) *" Person " includes one or more individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, labor organizations, legal representatives, mutual companies, jointstock companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers and fiduciaries.*

(4) *" To rent " includes to lease, to sublease, to let or otherwise to grant for a consideration the right to occupy premises not owned by the occupant.*

(5) *" Restrictive Covenants " shall mean any specification limiting the transfer, rental, or lease of any dwelling because of race, color, religion or national origin.*

(6) *" Discriminatory housing practices " means an act that is unlawful under Sections 22, 23 and 24.*