

*mission's decision and order in a proceeding brought in the equity court of the county or Baltimore City wherein the unlawful employment practice which is the subject of the Commission's order occurred, or the county or Baltimore City wherein any person, required in the order to cease and desist from an unlawful employment practice or to take other affirmative action, resides or conducts his business. The record on the Commission's petition for enforcement shall consist solely of duly certified records of the Commission showing that it has jurisdiction over the respondent, that the procedure prescribed by this article has been complied with, and a certified copy of the Commission's order with proof of service. On such a petition, the inquiry of the court shall be limited to a determination of whether the action of the Commission is in excess of its statutory authority or jurisdiction and whether the respondent has substantially complied with the order of the Commission.*

**15B.**

*Any person (including one acting for or on behalf of a firm, association, or corporation) is guilty of a misdemeanor if*

*(1) He has claimed to be aggrieved under the provisions of this subtitle; and*

*(2) He has pursued the complaint under Sections 14, 15 and 15A of this subtitle, or any one of these sections; and*

*(3) The Commission has found the complaint to be unfounded or has dismissed it without further action against the respondent; and*

*(4) The court has found the complaint to have been made maliciously; and*

*Upon conviction thereof in the appropriate criminal court, he is subject to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, or to both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.*

*This section shall not be construed or applied to deny the right of a respondent to bring any civil action against one who has filed a complaint under this subtitle.*

**16.**

(a) During the investigation of any complaint alleging a violation of Sections 11, 11B, 17, 18, 19, or 23 of this article, and until said matters reach the stage of public hearings, the activities of all members of the Commission and employees thereof in connection with said investigation shall be conducted in confidence and without publicity, and the Commission shall hold confidential any information in relation thereto, including the identity of the complainant and the respondent, except that

(i) Any information may be released at any time if the release has been agreed to in writing by both complainant and respondent; and

(ii) The identity of the complainant may be disclosed to the respondent at any time;

(iii) *This section shall not apply to the release of information by the Commission or any employee thereof to the General Assembly*