

TAXES," SUBTITLE "INSURANCE TAXES"; to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 145(c) of said article and title, subtitle, "District Courts"; establishing procedures for the cancellation by certain insurers of certain agreements with agents and brokers and requiring said insurers to renew policies of motor vehicle liability CERTAIN POLICIES OF insurance written through such agents and brokers under certain circumstances; excepting policies of motor vehicle liability insurance from the provisions of Section 240A and 240C of Article 48A; establishing new procedures for the cancellation and non-renewal of motor vehicle liability insurance policies and for increasing premiums thereon and decreasing coverage thereunder; correcting errors in Section 240B of Article 48A and making said section consistent with other revisions of Article 48A made by this Act; permitting insurers to exclude certain named drivers from coverage under certain circumstances; making Section 240D of Article 48A consistent with other revisions of Article 48A made by this Act; requiring that premium classification standards be objectively demonstrated to have a direct and substantial effect upon losses or expenses; limiting the placement of insureds in higher premium classifications; repealing the Maryland Automobile Insurance Plan for assigned risks; creating the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund and providing for its organization, financing, powers and functions; requiring policies of motor vehicle liability insurance to provide direct first party coverage for certain types and amounts of property damage and economic loss; prohibiting the duplication of benefits and providing for the coordination of benefits under two or more motor vehicle liability policies; abolishing the Unsatisfied Claim and Judgment Fund and the requirements relating to financial responsibility after an accident; requiring owners of every registered motor vehicle and persons excluded from coverage by a private insurer or rejected for insurance by the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund to maintain minimum security in the form of a motor vehicle liability insurance policy or other security approved by the Motor Vehicle Administrator in order to obtain and maintain a registration certificate or to retain a valid operator's license; establishing the doctrine of comparative negligence and allowing persons guilty of contributory negligence to recover judgments in motor vehicle accident cases under certain circumstances; limiting contingent fees for attorneys in motor vehicle accident cases; allowing courts to assess pre-judgment interest in motor vehicle accident cases under certain circumstances; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MARYLAND AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FUND IS LIABLE FOR THE INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX giving the District Court exclusive jurisdiction over motor vehicle accident cases where the claim does not exceed \$10,000.00; and relating generally to motor vehicle liability insurance and the reparations for damages suffered in motor vehicle accidents.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 234B of Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume and 1971 Supplement), title "Insurance Code," subtitle "15. Unfair Trade Practices," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; that Section 240A of said article, title and subtitle be and it is hereby repealed