

§ 80A. Certified copies of records, etc., of Department of Tidewater Fisheries admissible as originals.

A copy or photostat of any books, papers, entries, records or proceedings pertaining to the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, when certified to by the Chairman of the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries as being correct, shall be received as evidence in any court of law or equity or before any judge, [justice of the peace,] or other tribunal in this State, in the same manner and to have the same effect as if the original books, papers, entries, records or proceedings were themselves produced.

SECTION 36. *And be it further enacted*, That Sections 15, 19, 35 and 56 of Article 35 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Evidence," subtitles "Attendance and Pay of Witnesses," "COMMISSIONS TO TAKE EVIDENCE FROM OTHER STATES," and "Proof of Accounts," be and they are hereby repealed.

§ 15. Superintendent of Maryland Tuberculosis Sanitarium.

[No subpoena or summons in any civil cases shall be issued by any board, bureau, commission or out of any court of record in this State, or by any justice of the peace, requiring the personal attendance as a witness of the superintendent of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanitarium or any branch thereof to testify concerning the health, history or any other factor pertaining to any individual who may be, or may have been, a patient in any institution whereof the said superintendent may have supervision, except in those cases in which his personal testimony is absolutely essential to the issue, provided, however, that in any civil cases any transcript of the official records of any such institution, duly certified by any such said superintendent, shall be competent evidence of the medical history of any individual who heretofore has been, or hereafter may be, a patient therein; and provided further that nothing contained in this section shall be construed to limit or to abridge the right of any party to take the testimony of any such said superintendent by deposition as otherwise provided in this article.]

§ 56. Statement filed by plaintiff in action ex contractu; affidavit of defense.

[In any action arising ex contractu, brought before any justice of the peace of this State, if the plaintiff or his agent shall have filed, at the time of bringing his action, an itemized statement of his account and the original written contract, if any, between the parties, and an affidavit setting out distinctly his cause of action, and the sum he claims to be due, exclusive of all setoffs and just grounds of defense and the defendant shall have been served with a copy of said statement, contract and affidavit, and of the summons, the plaintiff shall be entitled to a judgment for the amount so claimed, with interest and costs, unless the defendant shall file, on or before six days next succeeding the return day of the summons, or such additional time as shall be fixed by said justice of the peace, an affidavit of defense, denying the right of the plaintiff as to the whole or some specified part of his claim, and specifically stating also, in precise and distinct terms, the grounds of his defense, which must be such as would, if true, be sufficient to defeat the plaintiff's claim in whole or in part;