

that notice of this subsection, prior to or upon execution of the contract, has been given to the party who seeks to recover from such person, provided that nothing herein contained shall affect any contract entered into prior to June 1, 1967.

(v) The State shall provide such funds as the inspector may require to defray the expense, legal or otherwise, in the prosecution of any violations of the subtitle.

(w) All alleged violations of this subtitle when reported to the inspector and when duly substantiated by affidavits, or other satisfactory evidence, shall be investigated by him. The inspector may employ such number of special investigators as the inspector deems necessary or as may be provided in the annual State budget. If the evidence of violations is substantiated, the inspector shall report the same to the Attorney General or State's attorney of the political subdivision in which the violations are alleged to have occurred.

(x) Upon receiving reports together with proper evidence, from the inspector that any of the provisions of this subtitle have been violated, the Attorney General or the appropriate State's attorney of the political subdivision in which it is claimed such violations occurred shall institute and conduct the proper proceedings of the appropriate court to prosecute and punish such alleged offenders.

(y) Notwithstanding the penalties provided in subsections, (u) or (aa), the courts of record having equity jurisdiction shall have jurisdiction to enjoin any person, firm, association or corporation violating the provisions of this subtitle.

(z) All contractors licensed under the provisions of §§ 245 through 269 of Article 56 of the Annotated Code of Maryland shall be exempt from the provisions of the subtitle insofar as their activities do not exceed the home-improvement activity described therein.

(aa) Any violations of this subtitle set out herein as misdemeanors shall be punishable to the extent of a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or not more than six months in jail, or both, in the discretion of the judge hearing the case.

(ab) The Municipal Court of Baltimore City shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Criminal Court of Baltimore City to try persons charged with offenses under this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1973.

Approved May 21, 1973.

CHAPTER 529

(House Bill 309)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 17(a) of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "Corporations - Municipal," subtitle "Home Rule," subheading "Charter Amendments," amending the law which concerns the form of proposals to amend an existing charter of a municipal corporation in order to change certain requirements therein.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 17 (a) of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "Corporations - Municipal," subtitle