

CONFINEMENT, EXCEPT HIS OWN ATTORNEY, SHALL ENTER OR ATTEMPT TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT RELATING TO COMPENSATION WHOLLY OR PARTLY ON A CONTINGENT BASIS WITH SAID PERSON IN CONNECTION WITH HIS INJURIES.]]

[[D) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION RELATING TO SETTLEMENTS, RELEASES]] AND STATEMENTS [[AND CONTINGENT FEE AGREEMENTS]] OBTAINED FROM A PATIENT CONFINED IN A HOSPITAL OR SANITARIUM SHALL NOT APPLY, IF PRIOR TO OBTAINING THE SETTLEMENT, RELEASE,]] OR STATEMENT [[OR CONTINGENT FEE AGREEMENT]], THE INJURED PARTY HAS SIGNIFIED IN WRITING, BY A STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE A NOTARY PUBLIC, WHO HAS NO INTEREST ADVERSE TO THE INJURED PARTY, HIS WILLINGNESS THAT A SETTLEMENT, RELEASE]] OR STATEMENT [[OR CONTINGENT FEE AGREEMENT]] BE GIVEN.]]

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

Approved May 24, 1973.

CHAPTER 707

(Senate Bill 779)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 15 of Article 47 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Insolvents," to provide that health, welfare and pension contributions]]negotiated]] contracted in lieu of wages, be included in preferred status for money due from adjudged insolvents, those in receivership and those making an assignment for benefit of creditors.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 15 of Article 47 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Insolvents," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

15.

Whenever any person or body corporate shall make an assignment for the benefit of his, her or its creditors, or shall be adjudicated insolvent upon his, her or its petition, or upon the petition of any creditor or creditors, or shall have his, her or its property or estate taken possession of by a receiver under a decree of a court of equity, in the distribution of the property or estate of such person or body corporate, all the money due and owing from such person or body corporate for (1) wages, (2) salaries, (3) HEALTH, WELFARE AND PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS [[NEGOTIATED]] CONTRACTED IN LIEU OF WAGES, or (4) commissions to clerks, servants, salesmen or employees contracted not more than three months anterior to the execution of such assignment, adjudication of insolvency, or appointment of receiver, shall first be paid in full out of such property or estate, after payment of the proper and legitimate costs, expenses and commissions, and shall be preferred to all claims against the property and estate of such insolvent person or body corporate, except the lien claims of such persons as shall hold liens upon such property or estate, recorded at least