

227C.

(A) IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR ANY REAL ESTATE BROKER [OR], REAL ESTATE SALESMAN OR LAWYER ACTING AS A BROKER TO REQUIRE AS A CONDITION OF SETTLEMENT OF [INDIVIDUAL HOMES] SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS THAT A BUYER EMPLOY A PARTICULAR TITLE INSURANCE, SETTLEMENT, OR ESCROW COMPANY OR TITLE ATTORNEY.

(B) EACH REAL ESTATE CONTRACT SUBMITTED BY A REAL ESTATE BROKER OR REAL ESTATE SALESMAN FOR THE SALE OF [INDIVIDUAL HOMES] SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS SHALL CONTAIN, IN BOLD-FACED TYPE, AN OFFER TO THE BUYER TO SELECT HIS OWN TITLE INSURANCE, SETTLEMENT, OR ESCROW COMPANY OR TITLE ATTORNEY, BUT SUCH REAL ESTATE CONTRACT SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED TO BE INVALID FOR FAILURE TO INCLUDE THE OFFER IN THE CONTRACT.

(C) THE VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION BY ANY LICENSEE SHALL BE SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF HIS LICENSE, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSION.

[(D) HOWEVER, THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY IN ANY CASE WHERE THE SELLER OFFERS TO PAY CERTAIN CLOSING COSTS WHICH SHALL INCLUDE, WHERE APPLICABLE, SURVEYOR'S FEES, TITLE EXAMINATION FEES, AND THE FEES FOR SETTLEMENT CHARGED BY THE ESCROW, SETTLEMENT, TITLE OR TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY OR TITLE COMPANY OR TITLE ATTORNEY.]

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

Approved May 24, 1973.

CHAPTER 784

(House Bill 531)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, §§ 233, 234, 236 [and] 237, 245, 246, and 247 of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1972 Supplement), title "Revenue and Taxes", subtitle "State Department of Assessments and Taxation", and to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 13, 249 and 255 respectively of the same Article of the Code, subtitles "By Whom Assessment Shall be Made", "Appeal Tax Courts", and "Appeals" respectively; and to repeal Section 248 of the same Article of the Code, subtitle, "Appeal Tax Courts", and to enact new Section 248 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the Section repealed; and to repeal §§ 3, 233A, 235, 238, 238A, 239, 240 and 241 of the same Article of the Code, subtitle "State Department of Assessments and Taxation"; and to repeal Section 250 of the same Article of the Code, subtitle, "Appeal Tax Courts", and to add new Sections 246A, 246B, 246C and 246D to the same Article of the Code, subtitle, "State Department of Assessments and Taxation", to follow immediately after Section 246. II and to repeal §§ 245 and 246 of the same