THE METHOD PROVIDED IN §§ 8-729 THROUGH 8-736 OF PERFECTING AND GIVING NOTICE OF SECURITY INTERESTS IS EXCLUSIVE.

8-736.

- (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRESCRIBE AND PROVIDE SUITABLE FORMS OF APPLICATIONS, CERTIFICATE OF TITLE, NOTICES OF SECURITY INTERESTS, AND ALL OTHER NOTICES AND FORMS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT §§ 8-729 THROUGH 8-736.
- (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY MAKE NECESSARY INVESTIGATIONS TO PROCURE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT §§ 8-729 THROUGH 8-736.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 277 (a) of Article 81 - Revenue and Taxes, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969) Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

## Article 81 - Revenue and Taxes

277.

A tax is hereby imposed upon every instrument of writing conveying title to real or personal property, or creating liens or encumbrances upon real or personal property, offered for record and recorded in this State with the clerks of the circuit courts of the respective counties, or the clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore on instruments of writing described in an d subsection (s) hereof filed with the State Department of and Taxation. EXCEPT FOR LIENS OR Assessments ENCUMBRANCES UPON VESSELS WHICH ARE FILED AND OFFERED FOR RECORD WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, provided that conveyances to the State or any agency thereof any political subdivision of the State shall not be subject to the tax or charge imposed by this section. The term "instruments of writing" shall include deeds, mortgages, chattel mortgages, bills of sale, leases, deeds of trust, contracts and agreements, and shall also include a filed financing statement under the Uniform Commercial Code used to publicize any of [such] THE types of a secured transaction which prior to enactment hereof were subject to the tax hereby imposed but shall not include mechanic's liens, crop liens, or security agreements relating to farm products or equipment used in farming operations, purchase-money mortgages, assignments of mortgages, conditional sales contracts or other purchase-money security agreements or a security agreement relating to the assignment of contract rights, accounts, general intangibles or inventory as these terms