county, municipal corporation, or other political subdivision thereof.

    SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 5 of Article 45 — Husband and Wife, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and re—enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

              Article 45 — Husband and Wife

5.

    Married women shall have power to engage in any business, and to contract, whether engaged in business or not, and to sue upon their contracts, and also to sue for the recovery, security or protection of their property, and for torts committed against them, as fully as if they were unmarried; contracts may also be made with them, and they may also be sued separately upon their contracts, whether made before or during marriage, and for wrongs independent of contract committed by them before or during their marriage, as fully as if they were unmarried; and upon judgments recovered against them, execution may be issued as if they were unmarried; nor shall any husband be liable upon any contract made by his wife in her own name and upon her own responsibility, nor for any tort committed separately by her out of his presence, without his participation or sanction.

    The provisions of this section apply to all contractual relations entered into by married or unmarried women, including RETAIL CREDIT ACCOUNTS OF retail installment sales [or retail credit accounts] as defined, RESPECTIVELY, in [Article 83 of this Code] TITLE 12, SUBTITLES 5 AND 6 OF THE COMMERCIAL LAW ARTICLE OF THE CODE.

    SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 240E(b) of Article 48A — Insurance Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and re—enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

              Article 48A — Insurance Code

240E.

    (b)   The computation of a [service] FINANCE charge in a retail credit account shall not be based in any part upon the premiums due under a policy of credit life or disability insurance.   For the purposes of this