

Section 3-408.1 be and it is hereby added to Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1975 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

3-408.1.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "COMMISSIONER," "LAND," AND "PATENT" HAVE THE SAME MEANINGS AS PROVIDED IN TITLE 13 OF THE REAL PROPERTY ARTICLE .

(B) A COURT SHALL RENDER A DECLARATORY JUDGMENT IN A LAND PATENT PROCEEDING ON BEING REQUESTED TO DO SO UNDER §13-407 OF THE REAL PROPERTY ARTICLE. THE PARTY FILING FOR THE DECLARATORY JUDGMENT SHALL ATTACH AS EXHIBITS COPIES OF ANY RELEVANT MATERIAL FILED WITH THE COMMISSIONER.

(C) THE DECLARATION SHALL BE MADE ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE AND TITLE 13 OF THE REAL PROPERTY ARTICLE. THE DECLARATORY JUDGMENT MAY BE APPEALED AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE AND THE MARYLAND RULES.

(D) THE DECLARATION OF THE COURT SHALL BE BINDING ON ALL OF THE LAND, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SOME OF THE LAND IS LOCATED IN A COUNTY OTHER THAN WHERE THE COURT IS LOCATED.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any uncompleted part of a land patent proceeding commenced prior to the effective date of this Act and not terminated, shall be governed for the remainder of the proceeding by the applicable provisions of this Act.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all forms of warrants not provided for in this Act are abolished, including common warrants, special warrants, escheat warrants, and proclamation warrants.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act does not alter, abridge, or in any manner affect the rights of any person deriving title through any valid patent issued before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976.

Approved May 25, 1976.

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