sentence may not exceed confinement for three years.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1978 is declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, it shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved May 2, 1978.

## CHAPTER 189

(Senate Bill 91)

AN ACT concerning

## Autopsies - Expenses

FOR the purpose of directing the Comptroller of the State of Maryland to pay certain autopsy postmortem examination expenses and to extend the payment of certain autopsy expenses to activities of deputy medical examinors changing the methods of funding certain postmortem expenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 22 - Postmortem Examiners Section 7(a) Annotated Code of Maryland (1973 Replacement Volume and 1977 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

## Article 22 - Postmortem Examiners

7.

(a) If the cause of a death described in § 6 of this article is established beyond a reasonable doubt, the medical examiner shall so report and file in his office within 30 days after his notification of the death. If, however, in the opinion of the medical examiner, an autopsy is necessary, the same shall be performed by the chief medical examiner, an assistant medical examiner or by any competent pathologists as may be authorized by the chief medical examiner, except those cases as provided in subsection (b). A detailed description of the findings