SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved April 28, 1981.

CHAPTER 168

(House Bill 527)

AN ACT concerning

Telephones - Hearing Aid Incompatibility - Penalty

FOR the purpose of providing a certain penalty for selling, renting, leasing, or installing telephones that prevent the use of hearing aids without notice of a certain incompatibility.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 23 - Miscellaneous Companies Section 326B Annotated Code of Maryland (1973 Replacement Volume and 1980 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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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 23 - Miscellaneous Companies

326B.

- (A) Any distributor of telephone equipment, receivers, or components may not sell, rent, lease, or install telephones which include equipment, receivers, or components which prevent the effective use of hearing aid devices without notification to the customer that such equipment is incompatible with any hearing aid device.
- (B) ANY PERSON VIOLATING WHO WILFULLY VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR, AND UPON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$500, OR TO IMPRISONMENT OF NOT MORE THAN 6 MONTHS, OR BOTH.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved April 28, 1981.