

(A) Whenever any child destitute of means of subsistence and unable either by reason of mental or physical infirmity to support himself shall, in writing under oath filed with a State's attorney (the term State's attorney as used in this subtitle includes deputy State's attorney or assistant State's attorney acting under authority given by the State's attorney) accuse his parent of being possessed of or able to earn means sufficient to provide him with necessary shelter, food, care and clothing and has failed to do so, the State's attorney may require witnesses other than the parent accused to appear before him for such examination of witnesses as may be deemed in the public interest. After such examination or inquiry the State's attorney may file an information in the circuit court of the county [or the Criminal Court of Baltimore City, as the case may be,] against the accused parent charging him with the offense of nonsupport.

(B) Nothing in this section, however, shall prevent the State's attorney, if he sees fit, from submitting any such nonsupport case to the grand jury, as in other criminal cases, for such action as it may deem proper, instead of proceeding by way of information.

99.

The State's attorney may, for the purpose of facilitating the handling of such cases, issue subpoenas and summonses requiring the personal attendance of any person, firm, corporation or association, other than the accused parent, to give testimony in connection with such examination or inquiry, or requiring the production of any and all documentary matter in connection with such examination or inquiry. The State's attorney may also administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses and receive evidence. In the case of disobedience to a subpoena or summons, or the contumacy of a witness appearing before him, the State's attorney may invoke the aid of the circuit court of the county [or the Criminal Court of the City of Baltimore, as the case may be]; and the court may thereupon issue an order requiring the person, firm, corporation or association, to obey the subpoena or summons and to give testimony and to produce any and all documentary matter deemed necessary by said court for such investigation or inquiry. In case any person, firm, corporation or association refuse to obey such an order of the court after the same has been served on the witness, such person, firm, corporation or association shall be deemed in contempt of court and shall be punished therefor, subject to the right to appeal as now provided or hereafter regulated.

105.

(A) Whenever any parent destitute of means of subsistence and unable either by reason of old age,