CHAPTER 253

(House Bill 18)

AN ACT concerning

Immunization - Religious Exemption

FOR the purpose of making-permanent extending a religious exemption for certain individuals in the State from certain immunization requirements; repealing-the-requirement-for requiring a certain report by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; repealing extending the time limits for the exemption from certain immunization requirements; and generally relating to immunization requirements in the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Education Section 7-402(b) Annotated Code of Maryland (1978 Volume and 1984 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General Section 18-403 Annotated Code of Maryland (1982 Volume and 1984 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 188 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1983 Section 2

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

7-402.

(b) (1) Unless the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene declares an emergency or an epidemic of disease, a child whose parent or guardian objects to immunization on the ground that it conflicts with the parent's or guardian's bona fide religious beliefs and practices may not be required to present a physician's certification of immunization in order to be admitted to school.