

**CHAPTER 5**

**(Senate Bill 101)**

AN ACT concerning

**Records – Evidence**

FOR the purpose of providing that certain documents reproduced by optical imagery are as admissible in evidence as originals; and generally relating to the admissibility of reproduced documents and records.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 10-102

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

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

**Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

10-102.

(a) If a business, institution, member of a profession or calling, or a department or agency of government, in the regular course of business or activity has kept or recorded a memorandum, writing, entry, print, representation, or a combination of them, of an act, transaction, occurrence, or event, and in the regular course of business has caused any or all of them to be recorded, copied, or reproduced by a photographic, photostatic, microfilm, microcard, miniature photographic, OPTICAL IMAGING, or other process which accurately reproduces or forms a durable medium for so reproducing the original, the original may be destroyed in the regular course of business unless its preservation is required by law. The reproduction, when satisfactorily identified, is as admissible in evidence as the original itself in a judicial or administrative proceeding whether the original is in existence or not and an enlargement or facsimile of the reproduction is likewise admissible in evidence if the original reproduction is in existence and available for inspection under direction of the court. The introduction of a reproduced record, enlargement, or facsimile does not preclude admission of the original.

(b) This section shall be interpreted and construed to effectuate its general purpose of making uniform the law of those states which enact it.

(c) This section may be cited as the Maryland Uniform Photographic Copies of Business and Public Records as Evidence Act.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1992.