

CORPORATION FROM PRESENTING A CLAIM OF THAT CORPORATION BEFORE ANY trial magistrates courts in Queen Anne's County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 14 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitle "I. Crimes and Punishments," subheading "Barratry; Practice of Law by Corporation," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

14.

It shall be unlawful for any corporation or voluntary association to assume, use or advertise in any newspaper, periodical, or by use of any notice, circular, letterhead, card, or in any manner whatsoever, the title of lawyer, or attorney, attorney at law, or equivalent terms in any language in any such manner as to convey the impression that either alone or together with, or by, or through any person, whether a duly and regularly admitted attorney at law or not, it has, owns, conducts or maintains a law office, or an office or facilities for the practice of law, or for furnishing legal advice, services or counsel. It shall be unlawful further, for any corporation or voluntary association to solicit itself or by, or through its officers, agents or employees, employment in connection with the rendition of legal advice, services or counsel of any kind whatsoever, or to solicit any claim or demand for the purpose of bringing an action thereon, or representing as attorney at law, or for furnishing legal advice, services or counsel, to a person sued, or about to be sued in any action or proceeding, or against whom an action or proceeding has been, or is about to be brought, or who may be affected by any action or proceeding which has been or may be instituted in any court or before any judicial body, or for the purpose of representing any person in the pursuit of any civil remedy. Any corporation or voluntary association violating the provisions of this section shall be liable to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, and every officer, trustee, director, agent or employee of such corporation or voluntary association, who directly or indirectly engages in any of the acts herein prohibited, or assists such corporation or voluntary association to do such prohibited acts, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. The fact that any such officer, trustee, director, agent or employee shall be a duly and regularly admitted attorney at law, shall not be held to permit or allow any such corporation or voluntary association to do the acts prohibited herein. Nor shall such facts be a defense upon a trial of any of the persons mentioned herein for a violation of the provisions of this section. This section shall not apply to the business of examining and insuring titles to real property, or the collection or adjustment of mercantile claims in which a corporation or voluntary association may be lawfully engaged, nor to any insurance corporation or association defending the insured under a policy of issuance. *In addition, this section shall not apply to the officers of any corporation presenting a claim of said* NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED OR APPLIED TO PREVENT AN OFFICER OF A CORPORATION FROM PRESENTING A CLAIM OF THAT corporation before any trial magistrates in Queen Anne's County.