

Approved May 19, 1981.

CHAPTER 720

(Senate Bill 304)

AN ACT concerning

Evidence - Admissibility of Duplicates and Photographs

FOR the purpose of providing for the admissibility in evidence of certain duplicates and photographs under certain circumstances; and defining certain terms.

BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 10-103
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, To prove the content of a writing, recording, or photograph, the original writing, recording, or photograph is required; and

WHEREAS, Cases arise where certain photocopies do not fall within the ambit of § 10-102 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article because they were not made in the regular course of business; and

WHEREAS, Insofar as the primary purpose of the original documents requirement is directed at securing accurate information from the contents of material writings free of the infirmities of memory and the mistakes of hand-copying, the General Assembly concludes that the various methods of mechanical copying fulfill the purpose; insistence upon the original, or accounting for it, places costs, burdens of planning and hazards of mistake upon litigants; now, therefore,

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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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 - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

10-103.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED: