

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

(PRE-FILED)

P5

6lr0693

By: Delegate Weir

Requested: October 26, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Legislative Districting - Delegate Districts**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the subdivision of a legislative district to include a
4 single-member delegate district under certain circumstances; generally relating to
5 legislative districting; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the
6 State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland
8 Article III - Legislative Department
9 Section 3

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses
12 concurring), That it be proposed that the Constitution of Maryland readas follows:

13 **Article III - Legislative Department**

14 3.

15 (A) The State shall be divided by law into legislative districts forthe election of
16 members of the Senate and the House of Delegates. Each legislative district shall contain
17 one (1) Senator and three (3) Delegates. [Nothing herein shall prohibitthe subdivision of
18 any one] ONE or more of the legislative districts MAY BE SUBDIVIDED forthe purpose
19 of electing members of the House of Delegates into three (3) single-member delegate
20 districts or one (1) single-member delegate district and one (1) multi-member delegate
21 district.

22 (B) (1) IF A LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IS CONFIGURED SO THAT THE
23 MAJORITY OF ITS POPULATION RESIDES IN ONE COUNTY AND THE REMAINING
24 PORTION OF ITS POPULATION RESIDES IN ANOTHER COUNTY, THE LEGISLATIVE
25 DISTRICT SHALL BE SUBDIVIDED INTO DELEGATE DISTRICTS SO THAT THE LESSER
26 POPULATION IS CONTAINED WITHIN A SINGLE-MEMBER DELEGATE DISTRICT.

27 (2) A SINGLE-MEMBER DELEGATE DISTRICT, CREATED TO MEET THE
28 REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, MAY CONTAIN
29 POPULATION FROM BOTH COUNTIES IN ORDER TO MEET EQUAL POPULATION
30 STANDARDS.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
2 determines that the amendment to the Constitution of Maryland proposed by this Act
3 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, Section 1 of the
4 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

5 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
6 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the
7 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in
8 November, 1996 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in
9 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this
10 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there
11 shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the
12 Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all
13 returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
14 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further proceedings had
15 in accordance with Article XIV.