

HOUSE BILL 731

P5
HB 752/12 – HRU

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

3lr1032

By: **Delegates Parrott, Dwyer, Hough, Kipke, Krebs, McComas, W. Miller, Norman, Smigiel, and Stocksdale**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2013

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Capital Projects – Eliminating Individual Bond Bills**

3 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to prohibit
4 members of the General Assembly from introducing legislation to create a State
5 debt for the benefit of an individual project or entity; and submitting this
6 amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or
7 rejection.

8 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
9 Article III – Legislative Department
10 Section 33

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

14 **Article III – Legislative Department**

15 33.

16 (A) The General Assembly shall not pass local, or special Laws, in any of the
17 following enumerated cases, viz.: For extending the time for the collection of taxes;
18 granting divorces; changing the name of any person; providing for the sale of real
19 estate, belonging to minors, or other persons laboring under legal disabilities, by
20 executors, administrators, guardians or trustees; giving effect to informal, or invalid
21 deeds or wills; refunding money paid into the State Treasury, or releasing persons
22 from their debts, or obligations to the State, unless recommended by the Governor, or
23 officers of the Treasury Department. And the General Assembly shall pass no special
24 Law, for any case, for which provision has been made, by an existing General Law.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 The General Assembly, at its first Session after the adoption of this Constitution, shall
2 pass General Laws, providing for the cases enumerated in this section, which are not
3 already adequately provided for, and for all other cases, where a General Law can be
4 made applicable.

5 **(B) THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY NOT INTRODUCE**
6 **LEGISLATION THAT CREATES A STATE DEBT FOR THE BENEFIT OF AN**
7 **INDIVIDUAL PROJECT OR ENTITY.**

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

13 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
14 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the
15 qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2014
16 for their adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution.
17 At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment to the Constitution
18 shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the words "For the
19 Constitutional Amendment" and "Against the Constitutional Amendment," as now
20 provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the
21 Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article
22 XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with
23 Article XIV.