

HOUSE BILL 1048

G1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

9lr2672

By: **Delegates Malone, Kipke, Saab, and Szeliga**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Legislative Districts – Standards**

3 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to alter the
4 standards for legislative districts to prohibit the accounting for certain information
5 relating to the voting history and party affiliation of certain individuals; and
6 submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or
7 rejection.

8 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
9 Article III – Legislative Department
10 Section 4

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

14 **Article III – Legislative Department**

15 4.

16 (A) Each legislative district [shall]:

17 (1) **SHALL** consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form, and of
18 substantially equal population; **AND**

19 (2) **MAY NOT ACCOUNT FOR HOW INDIVIDUALS ARE REGISTERED TO**
20 **VOTE, HOW INDIVIDUALS VOTED IN THE PAST, OR THE POLITICAL PARTY TO WHICH**
21 **INDIVIDUALS BELONG.**

22 (B) Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 subdivisions.

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

6 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
7 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
8 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2020 for adoption or
9 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
10 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
11 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against
12 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
13 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
14 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
15 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.