

# HOUSE BILL 366

P5  
HB 886/18 – HRU

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

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By: **Delegates Saab, Arentz, Chisholm, Ciliberti, Clark, Corderman, Griffith, Hartman, Howard, Jacobs, Mangione, Metzgar, Parrott, Reilly, Rose, Shoemaker, and Szeliga**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2020

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Assembly – Term Limits**

3 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to limit the  
4 number of consecutive terms as either a Senator or a Delegate to which a person may  
5 be elected; specifying how service for a certain partial term shall be considered for  
6 purposes of the term limits; providing that certain provisions of this amendment do  
7 not prohibit a certain person who was elected to serve a further consecutive term in  
8 the same office in a certain election from serving in the same office during a certain  
9 term; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this amendment; making  
10 stylistic changes; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State  
11 for their adoption or rejection.

12 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution  
13 Article III – Legislative Department  
14 Section 6

15 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution  
16 Article XVIII – Provisions of Limited Duration  
17 Section 6

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

21 **Article III – Legislative Department**

22 6.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) A member of the General Assembly shall be elected by the registered voters of  
2 the legislative or delegate district from which [he] THE MEMBER seeks election, to serve  
3 for a term of four years beginning on the second Wednesday of January following [his] THE  
4 MEMBER'S election.

5 (B) (1) A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN ELECTED TO THREE CONSECUTIVE  
6 TERMS AS EITHER A SENATOR OR A DELEGATE SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO BE  
7 ELECTED TO SERVE A FURTHER CONSECUTIVE TERM IN THE SAME OFFICE.

8 (2) FOR PURPOSES OF THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, IF  
9 A PERSON HAS SERVED MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF A TERM AS A SENATOR OR A  
10 DELEGATE TO WHICH ANOTHER PERSON WAS ELECTED, THAT PERSON SHALL BE  
11 CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO A FULL TERM.

## 12 Article XVIII – Provisions of Limited Duration

### 13 6.

14 (A) FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED  
15 BY HOUSE BILL 366 OF 2020 CONCERNING TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF THE  
16 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THIS SECTION IS TEMPORARILY A PART OF ARTICLE III –  
17 LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT, SECTION 6. THIS SECTION SHALL EXPIRE AT THE END  
18 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TERM THAT BEGINS JANUARY 11, 2023.

19 (B) ARTICLE III, SECTION 6 OF THIS CONSTITUTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A  
20 PERSON WHO HAS BEEN ELECTED TO THREE OR MORE CONSECUTIVE TERMS AS A  
21 SENATOR OR A DELEGATE AND WHO WAS ELECTED TO SERVE A FURTHER  
22 CONSECUTIVE TERM IN THE SAME OFFICE IN THE NOVEMBER 2022 ELECTION FROM  
23 SERVING IN THE SAME OFFICE DURING THE TERM THAT BEGINS JANUARY 11, 2023.

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

28 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the  
29 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified  
30 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2020 for adoption or  
31 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,  
32 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each  
33 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against  
34 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,  
35 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed  
36 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further  
37 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.