

# HOUSE BILL 339

G1  
HB 1495/20 – HRU

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
(PRE-FILED)

1lr1193

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By: **Delegate Malone**

Requested: October 28, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## 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.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B)** Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political  
2 subdivisions.

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

7           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the  
8 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified  
9 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2022 for adoption or  
10 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,  
11 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each  
12 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against  
13 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,  
14 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed  
15 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further  
16 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.