

HOUSE BILL 1381

P5

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

5lr1280

By: **Delegate J. Long**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **House of Delegates – Renaming**

3 FOR the purpose of changing the name of the House of Delegates to be the House of
4 Representatives; and providing that the House of Representatives is the successor to
5 the House of Delegates and that the Speaker of the House of Representatives is the
6 successor to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

7 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
8 Article I – Elective Franchise
9 Section 9

10 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
11 Article II – Executive Department
12 Section 2, 3, 4, 17, and 21A

13 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
14 Article III – Legislative Department
15 Section 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 through 15, 17, 18, 22, 24, 26, and 30

16 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
17 Article IV – Judiciary Department
18 Section 12, 25, and 41

19 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
20 Article VI – Treasury Department
21 Section 4

22 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
23 Article XI – City of Baltimore
24 Section 1

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

4 **Article I – Elective Franchise**

5 9.

6 Every person elected, or appointed, to any office of profit or trust, under this
7 Constitution, or under the Laws, made pursuant thereto, shall, before [he] **THE PERSON**
8 enters upon the duties of such office, take and subscribe the following oath, or affirmation:
9 I,, do swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of
10 the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of
11 Maryland, and support the Constitution and Laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my
12 skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the
13 office of, according to the Constitution and Laws of this State, (and, if a Governor,
14 Senator, Member of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**, or Judge,) that I will
15 not directly or indirectly, receive the profits or any part of the profits of any other office
16 during the term of my acting as

17 **Article II – Executive Department**

18 2.

19 An election for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, under this Constitution, shall be
20 held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of November, in the year nineteen hundred
21 and seventy-four, and on the same day and month in every fourth year thereafter, at the
22 places of voting for [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** to the General Assembly; and every
23 person qualified to vote for [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, shall be qualified and entitled
24 to vote for Governor and Lieutenant Governor; the election to be held in the same manner
25 as the election of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**, and the returns thereof, under seal, to
26 be addressed to the Speaker of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**, and enclosed
27 and transmitted to the Secretary of State, and delivered to said Speaker, at the
28 commencement of the session of the General Assembly, next ensuing said election.

29 3.

30 The Speaker of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** shall then open the
31 said Returns, in the presence of both Houses; and the persons having the highest number
32 of votes for these offices, and being constitutionally eligible, shall be the Governor and
33 Lieutenant Governor, and shall qualify, in the manner herein prescribed, on the third
34 Wednesday of January next ensuing [his] **THE** election **OF THE GOVERNOR AND**
35 **LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

36 4.

1 If two or more sets of persons shall have the highest and equal number of votes for
2 Governor and Lieutenant Governor, one set of them shall be chosen Governor and
3 Lieutenant Governor, by the Senate and House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**; and
4 all questions in relation to the eligibility of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and to the
5 Returns of said election, and to the number and legality of votes therein given, shall be
6 determined by the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**; and if the person having the
7 highest number of votes for Governor or for Lieutenant Governor or both of them, be
8 ineligible, a person or persons shall be chosen by the Senate and House of [Delegates]
9 **REPRESENTATIVES** in place of the ineligible person or persons. Every election of Governor
10 or of Lieutenant Governor, or both, by the General Assembly shall be determined by a joint
11 majority of the Senate and House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**; and the vote shall
12 be taken viva voce. But if two or more sets of persons shall have the highest and an equal
13 number of votes, then, a second vote shall be taken, which shall be confined to the sets of
14 persons having an equal number; and if the vote should again be equal, then the election
15 of Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be determined by lot between those sets, who
16 shall have the highest and an equal number on the first vote.

17 17.

18 (a) To guard against hasty or partial legislation and encroachment of the
19 Legislative Department upon the co-ordinate Executive and Judicial Departments, every
20 Bill passed by the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** and the Senate, before it
21 becomes a law, shall be presented to the Governor of the State. If the Governor approves
22 the Bill, the Governor shall sign the Bill. Except for the Budget Bill, if the Governor
23 disapproves the Bill, the Governor shall return it with objections to the House in which it
24 originated, which House shall enter the objections at large on its Journal and proceed to
25 reconsider the Bill. Each House may adopt by rule a veto calendar procedure that permits
26 Bills that are to be reconsidered to be read and voted upon as a single group. The members
27 of each House shall be afforded reasonable notice of the Bills to be placed on each veto
28 calendar. Upon the objection of a member, any Bill shall be removed from the veto calendar.
29 If, after such reconsideration, three-fifths of the members elected to that House pass the
30 Bill, it shall be sent with the objections to the other House, by which it shall likewise be
31 reconsidered, and if it passes by three-fifths of the members elected to that House it shall
32 become a law. The votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the
33 names of the persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each
34 House respectively.

35 (b) If any Bill presented to the Governor while the General Assembly is in session
36 is not returned by the Governor with objections within six days (Sundays excepted), the
37 Bill shall be a law in like manner as if the Governor signed it, unless the General Assembly,
38 by adjournment, prevents its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

39 (c) Any Bill presented to the Governor within six days (Sundays excepted), prior
40 to adjournment of any session of the General Assembly, or after such adjournment, shall
41 become law without the Governor's signature unless it is vetoed by the Governor within 30
42 days after its presentment.

1 (d) Any Bill, except the Budget Bill, vetoed by the Governor shall be returned to
2 the House in which it originated immediately after the House has organized at the next
3 regular or special session of the General Assembly, other than in extraordinary session
4 convened under subsection (g) of this section. The Bill may then be reconsidered according
5 to the procedure specified in this section. Any Bill enacted over the veto of the Governor, or
6 any Bill which shall become law as the result of the failure of the Governor to act within
7 the time specified, shall take effect 30 days after the Governor's veto is over-ridden, or on
8 the date specified in the Bill, whichever is later. If the Bill is an emergency measure, it
9 shall take effect when enacted. No such vetoed Bill shall be returned to the Legislature
10 when a new General Assembly of Maryland has been elected and sworn since the passage
11 of the vetoed Bill.

12 (e) Except for the Budget Bill, the Governor shall have power to disapprove of any
13 item or items of any Bills making appropriations of money embracing distinct items, and
14 the part or parts of the Bill approved shall be the law, and the item or items of
15 appropriations disapproved shall be void unless repassed according to the rules or
16 limitations prescribed for the passage of other Bills over the Executive veto.

17 (f) (1) The Governor may approve or disapprove items in the Budget Bill as
18 provided in this subsection.

19 (2) The Governor may veto only items relating to the Executive
20 Department that have been increased or added by the General Assembly. The Governor
21 may not veto any other items in the Budget Bill.

22 (3) If the Governor vetoes an item that had been increased by the General
23 Assembly and the General Assembly does not override the veto under subsection (g) of this
24 section, that item shall revert to the proposed appropriation submitted by the Governor.
25 The proposed appropriation shall then be law immediately without further action by the
26 Governor.

27 (4) If the Governor vetoes an item that had been added by the General
28 Assembly and the General Assembly does not override the veto under subsection (g) of this
29 section, that item shall be void.

30 (5) Items not disapproved by the Governor shall be law immediately
31 without further action by the Governor.

32 (g) (1) If the Governor vetoes an item in the Budget Bill, the General Assembly
33 may convene in extraordinary session within 30 days after the date of the veto to consider
34 whether to override the veto. If the General Assembly wishes to consider whether to
35 override the Governor's veto of an item in the Budget Bill, the President of the Senate and
36 the Speaker of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** jointly shall issue a
37 proclamation specifying the date on which to convene in extraordinary session.

1 (2) (i) The Budget Bill shall be returned by the Governor to the House
2 in which it originated, and each vetoed item shall be considered individually.

3 (ii) If three-fifths of the members elected to that House vote to
4 override the veto of an item, it shall be sent to the other House for consideration.

5 (iii) If three-fifths of the members of that House vote to override the
6 veto of the item, that item shall revert to the appropriation originally passed by the General
7 Assembly. The appropriation as originally passed shall then become law immediately,
8 without further action by the Governor or the General Assembly.

9 21A.

10 (a) The salaries of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be as provided in
11 this section.

12 (b) The Governor's Salary Commission is created. It consists of seven members:
13 The State Treasurer; three appointed by the President of the Senate; and three appointed
14 by the Speaker of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**. Members of the General
15 Assembly and officers and employees of the State or a political subdivision of the State are
16 not eligible for appointment to the Commission. The members of the Commission shall elect
17 a member to be chairman, and the concurrence of at least five members is required for any
18 formal Commission action. The terms of members shall be for 4 years, except that the
19 persons first appointed to the Commission shall serve from June 1, 1977 until May 31,
20 1980. The members of the Commission are eligible for reappointment. Members shall serve
21 without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out
22 responsibilities under this section.

23 (c) Within ten days after the commencement of the regular session of the General
24 Assembly in 1978, and within ten days after the commencement of the regular session of
25 the General Assembly each fourth year thereafter, the Commission shall make a written
26 recommendation to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and other members of the General
27 Assembly as to the salary of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

28 (d) The recommendation shall be introduced as a joint resolution in each House
29 of the General Assembly not later than the fifteenth day of the session. The General
30 Assembly may amend the joint resolution to decrease the recommended salaries, but may
31 not amend the joint resolution to increase the recommended salaries. If the General
32 Assembly fails to adopt a joint resolution in accordance with this section within 50 days
33 after its introduction, the salaries recommended by the Commission shall apply. If the
34 General Assembly amends the joint resolution in accordance with this section, the salaries
35 specified in the joint resolution, as amended, shall apply. If the Commission recommends
36 no salary change, a joint resolution shall not be introduced.

37 (e) The Commission may not recommend salaries lower than that received by the
38 incumbent Governor at the time the recommendation is made; and the General Assembly

1 may not amend the joint resolution to provide for salaries lower than that received by the
2 incumbent Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

3 (f) A change in salary resulting from either Commission recommendation or
4 amended joint resolution under this section shall take effect at the beginning of the next
5 ensuing term of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

6 (g) Commission inaction or failure of the Commission to meet the requirements
7 of this section with respect to proposing a change in salary for the Governor and Lieutenant
8 Governor shall result in no change in salary.

9 Article III – Legislative Department

10 1.

11 The Legislature shall consist of two distinct branches; a Senate, and a House of
12 **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES**, and shall be styled the General Assembly of Maryland.

13 2.

14 The membership of the Senate shall consist of forty–seven (47) Senators. The
15 membership of the House of **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES** shall consist of one hundred
16 forty–one (141) **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES**.

17 3.

18 The State shall be divided by law into legislative districts for the election of members
19 of the Senate and the House of **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES**. Each legislative district
20 shall contain one (1) Senator and three (3) **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES**. Nothing
21 herein shall prohibit the subdivision of any one or more of the legislative districts for the
22 purpose of electing members of the House of **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES** into three
23 (3) single–member **[delegate] REPRESENTATIVE** districts or one (1) single–member
24 **[delegate] REPRESENTATIVE** district and one (1) multi–member **[delegate]**
25 **REPRESENTATIVE** district.

26 5.

27 Following each decennial census of the United States and after public hearings, the
28 Governor shall prepare a plan setting forth the boundaries of the legislative districts for
29 electing of the members of the Senate and the House of **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES**.

30 The Governor shall present the plan to the President of the Senate and Speaker of
31 the House of **[Delegates] REPRESENTATIVES** who shall introduce the Governor’s plan as
32 a joint resolution to the General Assembly, not later than the first day of its regular session
33 in the second year following every census, and the Governor may call a special session for
34 the presentation of the plan prior to the regular session. The plan shall conform to Sections

1 2, 3 and 4 of this Article. Following each decennial census the General Assembly may by
2 joint resolution adopt a plan setting forth the boundaries of the legislative districts for the
3 election of members of the Senate and the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**,
4 which plan shall conform to Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this Article. If a plan has been adopted
5 by the General Assembly by the 45th day after the opening of the regular session of the
6 General Assembly in the second year following every census, the plan adopted by the
7 General Assembly shall become law. If no plan has been adopted by the General Assembly
8 for these purposes by the 45th day after the opening of the regular session of the General
9 Assembly in the second year following every census, the Governor's plan presented to the
10 General Assembly shall become law.

11 Upon petition of any registered voter, the Supreme Court of Maryland shall have
12 original jurisdiction to review the legislative districting of the State and may grant
13 appropriate relief, if it finds that the districting of the State is not consistent with
14 requirements of either the Constitution of the United States of America, or the Constitution
15 of Maryland.

16 6.

17 A member of the General Assembly shall be elected by the registered voters of the
18 legislative or [delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** district from which [he] **THE MEMBER** seeks
19 election, to serve for a term of four years beginning on the second Wednesday of January
20 following [his] **THE MEMBER'S** election.

21 7.

22 The election for Senators and [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** shall take place on
23 the Tuesday next, after the first Monday in the month of November, nineteen hundred and
24 fifty-eight, and in every fourth year thereafter.

25 9.

26 A person is eligible to serve as a Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, who on
27 the date of the person's election, (1) is a citizen of the State of Maryland, (2) has resided
28 therein for at least one year next preceding that date, and (3) if the district that the person
29 has been chosen to represent has been established for at least six months prior to the date
30 of the person's election, has resided in that district for six months next preceding that date
31 and, beginning January 1, 2024, has maintained a primary place of abode in that district
32 for six months next preceding that date.

33 If the district that the person has been chosen to represent has been established less
34 than six months prior to the date of the person's election, then in addition to (1) and (2)
35 above, the person shall have resided in the district for as long as it has been established
36 and, beginning January 1, 2024, shall have maintained a primary place of abode in the
37 district for as long as it has been established.

1 A person is eligible to serve as a Senator, if the person has attained the age of
2 twenty-five years, or as a [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, if the person has attained the
3 age of twenty-one years, on the date of the person's election.

4 10.

5 No member of Congress, or person holding any civil, or military office under the
6 United States, shall be eligible as a Senator, or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**; and if any
7 person shall after [his] **THE PERSON'S** election as Senator, or [Delegate]
8 **REPRESENTATIVE**, be elected to Congress, or be appointed to any office, civil, or military,
9 under the Government of the United States, [his] **THE PERSON'S** acceptance thereof, shall
10 vacate [his] **THE PERSON'S** seat; except that a Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**
11 may be a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States or a
12 member of the militia of the United States or this State.

13 11.

14 No person holding any civil office of profit, or trust, under this State shall be eligible
15 as Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**; however, a Senator or [Delegate]
16 **REPRESENTATIVE** may be a nonelected law enforcement officer or a fire or rescue squad
17 worker.

18 12.

19 No Collector, Receiver, or Holder of public money shall be eligible as Senator or
20 [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, or to any office of profit, or trust, under this State, until
21 [he] **THE COLLECTOR, RECEIVER, OR HOLDER** shall have accounted for, and paid into
22 the Treasury all sums on the books thereof, charged to, and due by [him] **THE**
23 **COLLECTOR, RECEIVER, OR HOLDER**.

24 13.

25 (a) (1) In case of death, disqualification, resignation, refusal to act, expulsion,
26 or removal from the county or city for which [he] **THE PERSON** shall have been elected, of
27 any person who shall have been chosen as a [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, or
28 in case of a tie between two or more such qualified persons, the Governor shall appoint a
29 person to fill such vacancy from a person whose name shall be submitted to [him] **THE**
30 **GOVERNOR** in writing, within thirty days after the occurrence of the vacancy, by the
31 Central Committee of the political party, if any, with which the [Delegate]
32 **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, so vacating, had been affiliated, at the time of the last
33 election or appointment of the vacating Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, in the
34 County or District from which he or she was appointed or elected, provided that the
35 appointee shall be of the same political party, if any, as was that of the [Delegate]
36 **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, whose office is to be filled, at the time of the last election
37 or appointment of the vacating [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, and it shall be

1 the duty of the Governor to make said appointment within fifteen days after the submission
2 thereof to [him] **THE GOVERNOR**.

3 (2) If a name is not submitted by the Central Committee within thirty days
4 after the occurrence of the vacancy, the Governor within another period of fifteen days shall
5 appoint a person, who shall be affiliated with the same political party, if any as was that of
6 the [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, whose office is to be filled, at the time of the
7 last election or appointment of the vacating [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, and
8 who is otherwise properly qualified to hold the office of [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or
9 Senator in the District or County.

10 (3) In the event there is no Central Committee in the County or District
11 from which said vacancy is to be filled, the Governor shall within fifteen days after the
12 occurrence of such vacancy appoint a person, from the same political party, if any, as that
13 of the vacating [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator, at the time of the last election
14 or appointment of the vacating Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, who is otherwise
15 properly qualified to hold the office of [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** or Senator in such
16 District or County.

17 (4) In every case when any person is so appointed by the Governor, [his]
18 **THE** appointment **OF THE SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE** shall be deemed to be for the
19 unexpired term of the person whose office has become vacant.

20 (b) In addition, and in submitting a name to the Governor to fill a vacancy in a
21 Legislative or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** district, as the case may be, in any of the
22 twenty–three counties of Maryland, the Central Committee or committees shall follow
23 these provisions:

24 (1) If the vacancy occurs in a district having the same boundaries as a
25 county, the Central Committee of the county shall submit the name of a resident of the
26 district.

27 (2) If the vacancy occurs in a district which has boundaries comprising a
28 portion of one county, the Central Committee of that county shall submit the name of a
29 resident of the district.

30 (3) If the vacancy occurs in a district which has boundaries comprising a
31 portion or all of two or more counties, the Central Committee of each county involved shall
32 have one vote for submitting the name of a resident of the district; and if there is a tie vote
33 between or among the Central Committees, the list of names there proposed shall be
34 submitted to the Governor, and [he] **THE GOVERNOR** shall make the appointment from
35 the list.

36 14.

1 The General Assembly shall meet on the second Wednesday of January, nineteen
2 hundred and seventy-one, and on the same day in every year thereafter, and at no other
3 time, unless convened by joint proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker
4 of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** under Section 17(g) of Article II of this
5 Constitution or by Proclamation of the Governor. The Governor shall issue a Proclamation
6 convening the General Assembly in extraordinary session if a majority of the members
7 elected to the Senate and a majority of the members elected to the House of [Delegates]
8 **REPRESENTATIVES** join in a petition to the Governor requesting that the Governor
9 convene the General Assembly in extraordinary session, and the Governor shall convene
10 the General Assembly on the date specified in the petition. This section does not affect the
11 Governor's power to convene the General Assembly in extraordinary session pursuant to
12 Section 16 of Article II of this Constitution.

13 15.

14 (1) The General Assembly may continue its session so long as in its judgment the
15 public interest may require, for a period not longer than ninety days in each year. The
16 ninety days shall be consecutive unless otherwise provided by law. The General Assembly
17 may extend its session beyond ninety days, but not exceeding an additional thirty days, by
18 resolution concurred in by a three-fifths vote of the membership in each House. When the
19 General Assembly is convened by Proclamation of the Governor, the session shall not
20 continue longer than thirty days, but no additional compensation other than mileage and
21 other allowances provided by law shall be paid members of the General Assembly for special
22 session.

23 (2) Any compensation and allowances paid to members of the General Assembly
24 shall be as established by a commission known as the General Assembly Compensation
25 Commission. The Commission shall consist of nine members, five of whom shall be
26 appointed by the Governor, two of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate,
27 and two of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of [Delegates]
28 **REPRESENTATIVES**. Members of the General Assembly and officers and employees of the
29 Government of the State of Maryland or of any county, city, or other governmental unit of
30 the State shall not be eligible for appointment to the Commission. Members of the
31 Commission shall be appointed for terms of four years commencing on June 1 of each
32 gubernatorial election year. Members of the Commission are eligible for re-appointment.
33 Any member of the Commission may be removed by the Governor prior to the expiration of
34 [his] **THE MEMBER'S** term for official misconduct, incompetence, or neglect of duty. The
35 members shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred
36 in carrying out their responsibilities under this section. Decisions of the Commission must
37 be concurred in by at least five members.

38 (3) Within 15 days after the beginning of the regular session of the General
39 Assembly in 1974 and within 15 days after the beginning of the regular session in each
40 fourth year thereafter, the Commission by formal resolution shall submit its
41 determinations for compensation and allowances to the General Assembly. The General
42 Assembly may reduce or reject, but shall not increase any item in the resolution. The

1 resolution, with any reductions that shall have been concurred in by joint resolution of the
2 General Assembly, shall take effect and have the force of law as of the beginning of the
3 term of office of the next General Assembly. Rates of compensation and pensions shall be
4 uniform for all members of the General Assembly, except that the officers of the Senate and
5 the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** may receive higher compensation as
6 determined by the General Assembly Compensation Commission. The provisions of the
7 Compensation Commission resolution shall continue in force until superseded by any
8 succeeding resolution.

9 (4) In no event shall the compensation and allowances be less than they were
10 prior to the establishment of the Compensation Commission.

11 17.

12 No Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE**, after qualifying as such,
13 notwithstanding [he] **THE SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE** may thereafter resign, shall
14 during the whole period of time, for which [he] **THE SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE** was
15 elected, be eligible to any office, which shall have been created, or the salary, or profits of
16 which shall have been increased, during such term.

17 18.

18 No Senator or [Delegate] **REPRESENTATIVE** shall be liable in any civil action, or
19 criminal prosecution, whatever, for words spoken in debate.

20 22.

21 Each House shall keep a Journal of its proceedings, and cause the same to be
22 published. The yeas and nays of members on any question, shall at the call of any five of
23 them in the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**, or one in the Senate, be entered on
24 the Journal.

25 24.

26 The House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** may inquire, on the oath of
27 witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offenses, as the Grand Inquest of the State,
28 and may commit any person, for any crime, to the public jail, there to remain, until
29 discharged by due course of Law. They may examine and pass all accounts of the State,
30 relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint auditors to state
31 and adjust the same. They may call for all public, or official papers and records, and send
32 for persons, whom they may judge necessary in the course of their inquiries, concerning
33 affairs relating to the public interest, and may direct all office bonds which shall be made
34 payable to the State, to be sued for any breach thereof; and with a view to the more certain
35 prevention, or correction of the abuses in the expenditures of the money of the State, the
36 General Assembly shall create, at every session thereof, a joint Standing Committee of the
37 Senate and House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**, who shall have power to send for

1 persons, and examine them on oath, and call for Public, or Official Papers and Records, and
 2 whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon all contracts made for printing
 3 stationery, and purchases for the Public offices, and the Library, and all expenditures
 4 therein, and upon all matters of alleged abuse in expenditures, to which their attention
 5 may be called by resolution of either House of the General Assembly.

6 26.

7 The House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** shall have the sole power of
 8 impeachment in all cases; but a majority of all the members elected must concur in the
 9 impeachment. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate, and when sitting for that
 10 purpose, the Senators shall be on oath, or affirmation, to do justice according to the law and
 11 evidence; but no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the
 12 Senators elected.

13 30.

14 Every bill, when passed by the General Assembly, and sealed with the Great Seal,
 15 shall be presented by the presiding officer of the House in which it originated to the
 16 Governor for the Governor's approval. All bills passed during a regular or special session
 17 shall be presented to the Governor for the Governor's approval no later than 20 days after
 18 adjournment. Within 30 days after presentment, if the Governor approves the bill, the
 19 Governor shall sign the same in the presence of the presiding officers and Chief Clerks of
 20 the Senate and House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**. Every Law shall be recorded in
 21 the office of the Supreme Court of Maryland, and in due time, be printed, published and
 22 certified under the Great Seal, to the several Courts, in the same manner as has been
 23 heretofore usual in this State.

24 **Article IV – Judiciary Department**

25 12.

26 In case of any contested election for Judges, Clerks of the Courts of Law, and
 27 Registers of Wills, the Governor shall send the returns to the House of [Delegates]
 28 **REPRESENTATIVES**, which shall judge of the election and qualification of the candidates
 29 at such election; and if the judgment shall be against the one who has been returned elected,
 30 or the one who has been commissioned by the Governor, the House of [Delegates]
 31 **REPRESENTATIVES** shall order a new election within thirty days.

32 25.

33 There shall be a Clerk of the Circuit Court for each County and Baltimore City, who
 34 shall be elected by a plurality of the qualified voters of said County or City, and shall hold
 35 [his] **THE** office for four years from the time of [his] **THE** election, and until [his] **THE**
 36 **CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT'S** successor is elected and qualified, and be re-eligible,
 37 subject to be removed for [wilful] **WILLFUL** neglect of duty or other misdemeanor in office,

1 on conviction in a Court of Law. In case of a vacancy in the office of Clerk of a Circuit Court,
2 the Judges of that Court may fill the vacancy until the general election for [Delegates]
3 **REPRESENTATIVES** to the General Assembly, to be held next thereafter, when a successor
4 shall be elected for the term of four years.

5 41.

6 There shall be a Register of Wills in each county of the State, and the City of
7 Baltimore, to be elected by the legal and qualified voters of said counties and city,
8 respectively, who shall hold [his] **THE** office for four years from the time of [his] **THE**
9 election **OF THE REGISTER OF WILLS** and until [his] **THE** successor **OF THE REGISTER**
10 **OF WILLS** is elected and qualified; [he] **THE REGISTER OF WILLS** shall be re-eligible,
11 and subject at all times to removal for willful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office in
12 the same manner that the Clerks of the Courts are removable. In the event of any vacancy
13 in the office of the Register of Wills, said vacancy shall be filled by the Judges of the
14 Orphans' Court, in which such vacancy occurs, until the next general election for
15 [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES** to the General Assembly when a Register **OF WILLS**
16 shall be elected to serve for four years thereafter.

17 **Article VI – Treasury Department**

18 4.

19 The Treasurer shall render [his] **THE TREASURER'S** Accounts, quarterly, to the
20 Comptroller; and shall publish, monthly, in such newspapers as the Governor may direct,
21 an abstract thereof, showing the amount of cash on hand, and the place, or places of deposit
22 thereof; and on the third day of each regular session of the legislature, [he] **THE**
23 **TREASURER** shall submit to the Senate and House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**
24 fair and accurate copies of all Accounts by [him] **THE TREASURER**, from time to time,
25 rendered and settled with the Comptroller. [He] **THE TREASURER** shall, at all times,
26 submit to the Comptroller the inspection of the money in [his] **THE** hands **OF THE**
27 **TREASURER**, and perform all other duties that shall be prescribed by Law.

28 **Article XI – City of Baltimore**

29 1.

30 The Inhabitants of the City of Baltimore, qualified by Law to vote in said city for
31 members of the House of [Delegates] **REPRESENTATIVES**, shall on the fourth Wednesday
32 of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, and on the same day in every fourth year
33 thereafter, elect a person to be Mayor of the City of Baltimore, who shall have such
34 qualifications, receive such compensation, discharge such duties, and have such powers as
35 are now, or may hereafter be prescribed by Law; and the term of whose office shall
36 commence on the first Monday of November succeeding [his] **THE MAYOR'S** election, and
37 shall continue for four years, and until [his] **THE MAYOR'S** successor shall have qualified;
38 and [he] **THE MAYOR** shall be ineligible for the term next succeeding that for which [he]

1 **THE MAYOR** was elected.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, as provided in this Act:

3 (a) The House of Representatives is the successor to the House of Delegates.

4 (b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives is the successor to the Speaker
5 of the House of Delegates.

6 (c) In every law, executive order, rule, regulation, policy, or document created by
7 an official, an employee, or a unit of this State, the names and titles of those units and
8 officials mean the names and titles of the successor unit or official.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That nothing in this Act affects the
10 term of office of an appointed or elected member of any commission, office, department,
11 agency, or other unit. An individual who is a member of a unit on the effective date of this
12 Act shall remain a member for the balance of the term to which appointed or elected unless
13 the member sooner dies, resigns, or is removed under provisions of law.

14 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any transaction or
15 employment status affected by or flowing from any change of nomenclature or any statute
16 amended by this Act and validly entered into or existing before the effective date of this Act
17 and every right, duty, or interest flowing from a statute amended by this Act remains valid
18 after the effective date of this Act and may be terminated, completed, consummated, or
19 enforced as required or allowed by any statute amended by this Act as though the
20 amendment had not occurred. If a change in nomenclature involves a change in name or
21 designation of any State unit, the successor unit shall be considered in all respects as
22 having the powers and obligations granted the former unit.

23 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

24 (a) The continuity of every commission, office, department, agency, or other unit
25 is retained.

26 (b) The personnel, records, files, furniture, fixtures, and other properties and all
27 appropriations, credits, assets, liabilities, and obligations of each retained unit are
28 continued as the personnel, records, files, furniture, fixtures, properties, appropriations,
29 credits, assets, liabilities, and obligations of the unit under the laws enacted by this Act.

30 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That letterhead, business cards,
31 and other documents reflecting the renaming of the House of Delegates to be the House of
32 Representatives, and the renaming of the Speaker of the House of Delegates to be the
33 Speaker of the House of Representatives, may not be used until all letterhead, business
34 cards, and other documents already in print and reflecting the name of the House of
35 Delegates and Speaker of the House of Delegates before the effective date of this Act have
36 been used.

1 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publisher of the
2 Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the
3 Department of Legislative Services, shall correct, with no further action required by the
4 General Assembly, cross-references and terminology rendered incorrect by this Act. The
5 publisher shall adequately describe any correction that is made in an editor's note following
6 the section affected.

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

11 SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
12 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
13 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2026 for adoption or
14 rejection in accordance with Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general
15 election, the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on
16 each ballot there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and
17 "Against the Constitutional Amendment", as now provided by law. Immediately after the
18 election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
19 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
20 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.