

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

(PRE-FILED)

P1

6lr0262

By: Delegate Arnick

Requested: August 24, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Lieutenant Governor - Abolition of Office**

3 FOR the purpose of abolishing the office of Lieutenant Governor; and submitting this
4 amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or
5 rejection.

6 BY proposing a repeal of the Constitution of Maryland

7 Article II - Executive Department

8 Section 1A

9 BY proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland

10 Article II - Executive Department

11 Section 6(d) and (e)

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

15 **Article II - Executive Department**

16 [1A.

17 There shall be a Lieutenant Governor, who shall have only the duties delegated to
18 him by the Governor and shall have such compensation as the General Assembly shall
19 provide by law, except that beginning in the year 1978 the salary of the Lieutenant
20 Governor shall be as provided under Section 21A of this Article. No person who is
21 ineligible under this Constitution to be elected Governor shall be eligible to hold the
22 office of Lieutenant Governor.]

23 6.

24 (d) When a vacancy occurs in the office of Governor, [the Lieutenant Governor
25 shall succeed to that office for the remainder of the term. When a vacancy occurs in the
26 office of Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall nominate a person who shall succeed
27 to that office upon confirmation by the affirmative vote of a majority of all members of
28 the General Assembly in joint session.

1 (e) If vacancies in the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor exist at the
2 same time, the General Assembly shall convene forthwith, and] the office [of Governor]
3 shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the affirmative vote of a majority of all
4 members of the General Assembly in joint session. [The person so chosen as Governor by
5 the General Assembly shall then nominate a person to succeed to the office of Lieutenant
6 Governor, upon confirmation by the affirmative vote of a majority of all members of the
7 General Assembly in the same joint session.] The President of the Senate shall serve as
8 acting Governor until the newly elected Governor has qualified. [If a vacancy exists in the
9 office of Lieutenant Governor, at a time when the Lieutenant Governor is authorized to
10 serve as acting Governor, the President of the Senate shall serve as acting Governor.] If
11 there is a vacancy in the office of the President of the Senate at a time when he is
12 authorized to serve as acting Governor, the Senate shall forthwith convene and fill the
13 vacancy.

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

18 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
19 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the
20 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in
21 November, 1996 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in
22 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this
23 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there
24 shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the
25 Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all
26 returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
27 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further proceedings had
28 in accordance with Article XIV.