

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

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**By: Delegates Preis, Fry, and Bonsack**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County - County Council - Election**

3 FOR the purpose of amending the Constitution to eliminate a requirement that the  
4 Charter of Harford County provide for the election of county councilmembers by  
5 the voters of the entire County; and submitting this amendment to the qualified  
6 voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland  
8 Article XI-A - Local Legislation  
9 Section 3A

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

13 **Article XI-A - Local Legislation**

14 3A.

15 [(a)] The charter for the government of any county governed by the provisions of  
16 this Article may provide for the election of members of the county council by the voters  
17 of councilmanic districts therein established, or by the voters of the entire county, or by a  
18 combination of these methods of election.

19 [(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the Charter for the  
20 government of Harford County under the provisions of this Article, either as adopted, or  
21 by amendment, shall provide for the election of members of the County Council by the  
22 voters of the entire county.]

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly  
24 determines that the amendment to the Constitution of Maryland proposed by this Act  
25 affects only one county and that the provisions of Article XIV, Section 1 of the  
26 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments apply.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section  
28 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the  
29 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in  
30 November, 1996 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in  
31 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this

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1 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there  
2 shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the  
3 Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all  
4 returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed  
5 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further proceedings had  
6 in accordance with Article XIV.