

**HOUSE BILL 45**  
Constitutional Amendment

Unofficial Copy  
P1

2000 Regular Session  
0lr0770

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate Arnick**  
Requested: October 28, 1999  
Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2000  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Comptroller - Rules of Succession**

3 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland that  
4 changes the rules of succession to the office of State Comptroller in the event of  
5 a vacancy in that office so that the Deputy Comptroller assumes office until a  
6 successor is elected at the next regularly scheduled general election and the  
7 successor qualifies and takes office; and submitting this amendment to the  
8 qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

9 BY proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland  
10 Article VI - Treasury Department  
11 Section 1

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 VI - Treasury Department**

16 1.

17 There shall be a Treasury Department, consisting of a Comptroller chosen by  
18 the qualified electors of the State, who shall receive such salary as may be fixed by  
19 law; and a Treasurer, to be appointed on joint ballot by the two Houses of the  
20 Legislature at each regular session in which begins the term of the Governor, who  
21 shall receive such salary as may be fixed by law. The terms of office of the Comptroller  
22 and Treasurer shall be for four years, and until their successors shall qualify; and  
23 neither of the officers shall be allowed, or receive any fees, commissions or perquisites  
24 of any kind in addition to his salary for the performance of any duty or services  
25 whatsoever. In case of a vacancy in the office of the Comptroller by death or  
26 otherwise, [the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall fill  
27 such vacancy by appointment, to continue until another election and until the  
28 qualification of the successor] THE DEPUTY COMPTROLLER SHALL ACT AS  
29 COMPTROLLER UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS ELECTED AT THE NEXT REGULARLY  
30 SCHEDULED GENERAL ELECTION, AND THE SUCCESSOR QUALIFIES AND TAKES

1 OFFICE. In case of a vacancy in the office of the Treasurer by death or otherwise, the  
2 Deputy Treasurer shall act as Treasurer until the next regular or extraordinary  
3 session of the Legislature following the creation of the vacancy, whereupon the  
4 Legislature shall choose a successor to serve for the duration of the unexpired term of  
5 office. The Comptroller and the Treasurer shall keep their offices at the seat of  
6 government, and shall take such oaths and enter into such bonds for the faithful  
7 discharge of their duties as are now or may hereafter be prescribed by law.

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

12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section  
13 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the  
14 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in  
15 November, 2000 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in  
16 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this  
17 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot  
18 there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against  
19 the Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the  
20 election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the  
21 proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further  
22 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.