

# HOUSE BILL 17

P5  
HB 526/06 – HRU

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
(PRE-FILED)

9lr0522  
CF SB 17

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By: **Delegates Haddaway, Eckardt, Smigiel, Sossi, and Walkup**

Requested: September 19, 2008

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2009

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Legislative Districting – Resident Delegates by County**

3 FOR the purpose of amending the Maryland Constitution to provide that legislative  
4 districting shall, to the greatest extent practicable, result in a resident delegate  
5 from every county; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the  
6 State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution  
8 Article III – Legislative Department  
9 Section 4

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 Maryland Constitution read as follows:

13 **Article III – Legislative Department**

14 4.

15 Each legislative district shall consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form,  
16 and of substantially equal population. Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries  
17 and the boundaries of political subdivisions **AND, TO THE GREATEST EXTENT**  
18 **PRACTICABLE, HAVING A RESIDENT DELEGATE FOR EVERY COUNTY.**

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section  
2 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the  
3 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in  
4 November, 2010 for their adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the  
5 Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment  
6 to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the  
7 words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and "Against the Constitutional  
8 Amendment," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall  
9 be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as  
10 directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in  
11 accordance with Article XIV.