

SENATE BILL 647

D4
HB 1345/08 – JUD

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

9lr2947
CF 9lr1586

By: **Senators Greenip, Colburn, Haines, Harris, Jacobs, Mooney, Simonaire, Stoltzfus, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2009

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland's Marriage Protection Act**

3 FOR the purpose of adding a new section to the Maryland Constitution to establish
4 that marriage between one man and one woman shall be the only domestic legal
5 union valid or recognized in this State; and submitting this amendment to the
6 qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
8 Article XV – Miscellaneous
9 Section 8

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 XV – Miscellaneous**

14 **8.**

15 **MARRIAGE BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN SHALL BE THE ONLY**
16 **DOMESTIC LEGAL UNION VALID OR RECOGNIZED IN THIS STATE.**

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

22 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
23 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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