

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4

P5

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By: **Delegates Frick, Arora, Carr, Elliott, Guzzone, Healey, Ivey, Kach, Krebs, McComas, Olszewski, Serafini, Stocksdale, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **United States Constitutional Convention – Legislative Districting and**
3 **Apportionment**

4 FOR the purpose of applying to the United States Congress for an amendments
5 convention called under Article V of the United States Constitution, on the
6 application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, to propose an
7 amendment to the U.S. Constitution to change the method of the apportionment
8 of the seats in the House of Representatives and the drawing of the legislative
9 districts for those seats; requiring approval from a majority of the legislatures of
10 the separate states to change the method of legislative districting and
11 apportionment under the U.S. Constitution; and generally relating to an
12 application to Congress for a convention to propose an amendment to the United
13 States Constitution.

14 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution provides authority for
15 an amendments convention to be called by Congress for the purpose of proposing
16 amendments to the U.S. Constitution on application of two-thirds of the legislatures
17 of the several states; and

18 WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland favors the consideration of an
19 amendments convention called by Congress for the purpose of considering
20 amendments to the U.S. Constitution to change the method of legislative districting
21 and apportionment of the seats in the House of Representatives; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, as
23 provided for in Article V of the United States Constitution, the General Assembly of
24 Maryland respectfully applies to Congress for an amendments convention to be called
25 for the purpose of considering amendments to the U.S. Constitution to change the
26 method of legislative districting and apportionment of the seats in the House of
27 Representatives; and be it further



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1 RESOLVED, That the amendments convention contemplated by this
2 application shall be entirely focused on and exclusively limited to the subject matter of
3 proposing for ratification an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to change the
4 method of legislative districting and apportionment of the seats in the House of
5 Representatives; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That this application constitutes a continuing application in
7 accordance with Article V of the U.S. Constitution until at least two-thirds of the
8 legislatures of the several states have made application for an equivalently limited
9 amendments convention; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution under the Great Seal of the State of
11 Maryland be sent by the Secretary of State to:

12 (1) the President of the United States Senate and the Speaker of the
13 United States House of Representatives; and

14 (2) all members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State is directed to send copies of this Joint
17 Resolution to the presiding officers of both Houses of the legislature of each of the
18 several states, with the request that it be circulated among leaders in the legislative
19 branch of the state governments; and with the further request that each of the states
20 join in requesting Congress to call an amendments convention for the purpose of
21 initiating a proposal to amend the United States Constitution as described in this
22 Joint Resolution.