

SENATE BILL 294

P5, G1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

8lr0143
CF HB 347

By: **The President (By Request – Administration) and Senators Cassilly, Eckardt, Hershey, Hough, Norman, Ready, and Serafini**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Government Accountability Act of 2018**

3 FOR the purpose of limiting the number of consecutive terms as either a Senator or a
4 Delegate to which a person may be elected; specifying how service for a certain
5 partial term shall be considered for purposes of the term limit; making stylistic
6 changes; generally relating to limiting the number of consecutive terms members of
7 the General Assembly may serve; and submitting this amendment to the qualified
8 voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.

9 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
10 Article III – Legislative Department
11 Section 6

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

15 **Article III – Legislative Department**

16 6.

17 (A) A member of the General Assembly shall be elected by the registered voters of
18 the legislative or delegate district from which [he] **THE MEMBER** seeks election, to serve
19 for a term of four years beginning on the second Wednesday of January following [his] **THE**
20 **MEMBER’S** election.

21 (B) (1) **A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN ELECTED TO TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS**
22 **AS EITHER A SENATOR OR A DELEGATE SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO BE ELECTED TO**
23 **SERVE A THIRD CONSECUTIVE TERM IN THE SAME OFFICE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) FOR PURPOSES OF THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, IF**
2 **A PERSON HAS SERVED MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF A TERM AS A SENATOR OR A**
3 **DELEGATE TO WHICH ANOTHER PERSON WAS ELECTED, THAT PERSON SHALL BE**
4 **CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO A FULL TERM.**

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

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
10 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
11 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2018 for adoption or
12 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
13 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
14 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against
15 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
16 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
17 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
18 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.