

SENATE BILL 307

P3, G1, P1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

8lr0137
CF 8lr0138

By: **The President (By Request – Administration) and Senators Bates, Brochin, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Hershey, Jennings, Norman, Ready, Reilly, Salling, Serafini, and Simonaire**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Assembly and Congressional Legislative Redistricting and**
3 **Apportionment Commission**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting multimember delegate districts; creating the General
5 Assembly and Congressional Legislative Redistricting and Apportionment
6 Commission; requiring the Commission to divide the State to create certain General
7 Assembly legislative districts and congressional districts; establishing exclusive and
8 original jurisdiction for the Court of Appeals to establish legislative districts and
9 congressional districts under certain circumstances; providing for the membership,
10 qualifications, and duties of the Commission; specifying certain requirements for the
11 adoption of redistricting plans by the Commission; specifying that the redistricting
12 plans meet certain standards and requirements; prohibiting the Commission from
13 considering certain factors in adopting redistricting plans; requiring the Secretary
14 of State to submit the Commission's final certified maps and plans for General
15 Assembly legislative districts and congressional districts to the presiding officers of
16 the General Assembly; requiring the presiding officers to introduce separate bills for
17 the General Assembly legislative districts and congressional districts; specifying
18 that the maps and plans become law only on adoption by three-fifths of the members
19 of each house of the General Assembly; providing that the Commission shall submit
20 an alternative map and plan if the General Assembly fails to adopt a previously
21 submitted map and plan; requiring the Legislative Auditor to establish and
22 administer an application process for individuals seeking appointment to the
23 Commission; prohibiting certain individuals from serving as a member of the
24 Commission; authorizing the Legislative Auditor to disqualify certain applicants
25 seeking membership on the Commission; requiring the Legislative Auditor to
26 establish an Applicant Review Panel to identify and establish certain applicant pools
27 from which certain members of the Commission are to be selected; requiring the
28 Legislative Auditor to select at random a certain number of names from the applicant
29 pools for membership on the Commission; requiring the Commission to elect a chair

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 and establish certain rules and procedures; making Commission meetings and
2 records subject to State laws governing open meetings and public records; providing
3 that the maps and plans drawn by the Commission are final and subject to review
4 by the Court of Appeals; authorizing certain persons to petition the Court of Appeals
5 to challenge or to establish General Assembly legislative districts or congressional
6 districts under certain circumstances; requiring the Court of Appeals to establish the
7 boundaries of General Assembly legislative districts or congressional districts or
8 grant other relief under certain circumstances; requiring that the Commission have
9 certain staff and other resources; requiring the Governor to include certain funding
10 for the Legislative Auditor, the Commission, the Secretary of State, and the
11 Department of Legislative Services in the State budget for certain years; requiring
12 the General Assembly to make a certain appropriation in the State budget; requiring
13 that the appropriation be available during a certain time period and be equal to a
14 certain amount; requiring that the Commission, with certain oversight, have
15 procurement and contracting authority; authorizing the Commission, with certain
16 oversight, to hire staff and consultants; defining certain terms; providing for the
17 effective date of this Act; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this
18 Act under certain circumstances; submitting this amendment to the qualified voters
19 of the State for their adoption or rejection; and generally relating to the General
20 Assembly and Congressional Legislative Redistricting and Apportionment
21 Commission.

22 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
23 Article III – Legislative Department
24 Section 3

25 BY proposing a repeal of the Maryland Constitution
26 Article III – Legislative Department
27 Section 5

28 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
29 Article III – Legislative Department
30 Section 5

31 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
32 Article IV – Judiciary Department
33 Section 14

34 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
35 Article V – Attorney-General and State's Attorneys
36 Section 3(a)(1)

37 BY adding to
38 Article – Election Law
39 Section 8-7A-01 through 8-7A-14 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7A.
40 General Assembly and Congressional Legislative Redistricting and
41 Apportionment Commission”

1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

6 **Article III – Legislative Department**

7 3.

8 The State shall be divided by law into legislative districts for the election of members
9 of the Senate and the House of Delegates. Each legislative district shall contain one (1)
10 Senator and three (3) Delegates. Nothing herein shall prohibit the subdivision of any one
11 or more of the legislative districts for the purpose of electing members of the House of
12 Delegates into three (3) single-member delegate districts [or one (1) single-member
13 delegate district and one (1) multi-member delegate district].

14 [5.

15 Following each decennial census of the United States and after public hearings, the
16 Governor shall prepare a plan setting forth the boundaries of the legislative districts for
17 electing of the members of the Senate and the House of Delegates.

18 The Governor shall present the plan to the President of the Senate and Speaker of
19 the House of Delegates who shall introduce the Governor's plan as a joint resolution to the
20 General Assembly, not later than the first day of its regular session in the second year
21 following every census, and the Governor may call a special session for the presentation of
22 his plan prior to the regular session. The plan shall conform to Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this
23 Article. Following each decennial census the General Assembly may by joint resolution
24 adopt a plan setting forth the boundaries of the legislative districts for the election of
25 members of the Senate and the House of Delegates, which plan shall conform to Sections
26 2, 3 and 4 of this Article. If a plan has been adopted by the General Assembly by the 45th
27 day after the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in the second year
28 following every census, the plan adopted by the General Assembly shall become law. If no
29 plan has been adopted by the General Assembly for these purposes by the 45th day after
30 the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in the second year following
31 every census, the Governor's plan presented to the General Assembly shall become law.

32 Upon petition of any registered voter, the Court of Appeals shall have original
33 jurisdiction to review the legislative districting of the State and may grant appropriate
34 relief, if it finds that the districting of the State is not consistent with requirements of either
35 the Constitution of the United States of America, or the Constitution of Maryland.]

36 5.

1 **(A) IN THE YEAR FOLLOWING EACH DECENNIAL CENSUS OF THE UNITED**
2 **STATES OR WHEN REQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES OR BY COURT ORDER, A**
3 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING AND**
4 **APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE APPOINTED:**

5 **(1) TO DIVIDE THE STATE INTO CONSECUTIVELY NUMBERED**
6 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS THAT CONFORM TO SECTIONS 2, 3,**
7 **AND 4 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND**

8 **(2) TO DIVIDE THE STATE TO CREATE AS MANY CONGRESSIONAL**
9 **DISTRICTS AS THERE ARE REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS APPORTIONED TO THE**
10 **STATE.**

11 **(B) (1) GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS AND**
12 **CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE**
13 **WITH THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THIS**
14 **CONSTITUTION.**

15 **(2) GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS SHALL BE AS**
16 **NEARLY EQUAL IN POPULATION AS PRACTICABLE, BUT MAY NOT DEVIATE MORE**
17 **THAN 2% IN POPULATION BETWEEN DISTRICTS.**

18 **(C) IN ORDER TO ADOPT A MAP AND PLAN FOR LEGISLATIVE AND**
19 **CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS, EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL**
20 **PASS THE BILL BY A VOTE OF THREE-FIFTHS OF THE MEMBERS OF THAT HOUSE.**

21 **Article IV – Judiciary Department**

22 14.

23 The Court of Appeals shall be composed of seven judges, one from the First Appellate
24 Judicial Circuit consisting of Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset,
25 Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties; one from the Second Appellate Judicial Circuit
26 consisting of Baltimore and Harford Counties; one from the Third Appellate Judicial
27 Circuit, consisting of Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, and Washington
28 Counties; one from the Fourth Appellate Judicial Circuit, consisting of Prince George's
29 County; one from the Fifth Appellate Judicial Circuit, consisting of Anne Arundel, Calvert,
30 Charles, and St. Mary's Counties; one from the Sixth Appellate Judicial Circuit, consisting
31 of Baltimore City; and one from the Seventh Appellate Judicial Circuit, consisting of
32 Montgomery County. The Judges of the Court of Appeals shall be residents of their
33 respective Appellate Judicial Circuits. The term of each Judge of the Court of Appeals shall
34 begin on the date of his qualification. One of the Judges of the Court of Appeals shall be
35 designated by the Governor as the Chief Judge. The jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals
36 shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State and such as now is or may hereafter be
37 prescribed by law **AND SHALL INCLUDE ORIGINAL JURISDICTION TO ESTABLISH THE**

1 LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAPS AND PLANS IN THE
 2 EVENT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FAILS TO ADOPT LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT AND
 3 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAPS AND PLANS ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF MAY
 4 IN ANY YEAR ENDING IN THE NUMBER TWO AND THIS JURISDICTION SHALL BE
 5 EXCLUSIVE AMONG THE STATE COURTS. It shall hold its sessions in the City of
 6 Annapolis at such time or times as it shall from time to time by rule prescribe. Its session
 7 or sessions shall continue not less than ten months in each year, if the business before it
 8 shall so require, and it shall be competent for the judges temporarily to transfer their
 9 sittings elsewhere upon sufficient cause. The salary of each Judge of the Court of Appeals
 10 shall be that now or hereafter prescribed by the General Assembly and shall not be
 11 diminished during his continuance in office. Five of the judges shall constitute a quorum,
 12 and five judges shall sit in each case unless the Court shall direct that an additional judge
 13 or judges sit for any case. The concurrence of a majority of those sitting shall be sufficient
 14 for the decision of any cause, and an equal division of those sitting in a case has the effect
 15 of affirming the decision appealed from if there is no application for reargument as
 16 hereinafter provided. In any case where there is an equal division or a three to two division
 17 of the Court a reargument before the full Court of seven judges shall be granted to the
 18 losing party upon application as a matter of right.

19 Article V – Attorney–General and State’s Attorneys

20 3.

21 (a) The Attorney General shall:

22 (1) [Prosecute] EXCEPT FOR CASES DEFENDED BY THE GENERAL
 23 ASSEMBLY AND CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING AND
 24 APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION, PROSECUTE and defend on the part of the State all
 25 cases pending in the appellate courts of the State, in the Supreme Court of the United
 26 States or the inferior Federal Courts, by or against the State, or in which the State may be
 27 interested, except those criminal appeals otherwise prescribed by the General Assembly.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
 29 as follows:

30 Article – Election Law

31 SUBTITLE 7A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE 32 REDISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION.

33 8–7A–01.

34 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
 35 INDICATED.

36 (B) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND CONGRESSIONAL

1 **LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION.**

2 (C) "DAY" MEANS A CALENDAR DAY, EXCEPT THAT IF THE FINAL DAY OF A
3 PERIOD WITHIN WHICH AN ACT IS TO BE PERFORMED IS A SATURDAY, SUNDAY, OR
4 HOLIDAY, THE PERIOD IS EXTENDED TO THE NEXT DAY THAT IS NOT A SATURDAY,
5 SUNDAY, OR HOLIDAY.

6 (D) "PANEL" MEANS THE APPLICANT REVIEW PANEL.

7 (E) "QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITOR" MEANS A CERTIFIED PUBLIC
8 ACCOUNTANT WHO IS CURRENTLY LICENSED BY THE STATE AND HAS BEEN A
9 PRACTICING CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS BEFORE
10 APPOINTMENT TO THE APPLICANT REVIEW PANEL.

11 **8-7A-02.**

12 IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT NEITHER THE GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS NOR THE DISTRICTS FOR THE STATE'S
14 REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS BE DRAWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF FAVORING OR
15 DISCRIMINATING AGAINST AN INCUMBENT OFFICEHOLDER, A CANDIDATE, OR A
16 POLITICAL PARTY.

17 **8-7A-03.**

18 (A) IN THE YEAR FOLLOWING THE YEAR IN WHICH THE NATIONAL CENSUS
19 IS TAKEN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF CONGRESS AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH
20 DECADE, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADJUST THE BOUNDARY LINES OF GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN
22 CONFORMANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS AND PROCESS:

23 (1) (I) EACH MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND SHALL BE
24 ELECTED FROM A SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICT; AND

25 (II) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES MAY BE ELECTED
26 FROM A SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICT OR A THREE-MEMBER DISTRICT;

27 (2) EACH MEMBER OF CONGRESS SHALL BE ELECTED FROM A
28 SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICT;

29 (3) THE POPULATION OF EACH GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE
30 DISTRICT SHALL BE REASONABLY EQUAL IN POPULATION, BUT MAY NOT DEVIATE
31 MORE THAN 2% IN POPULATION BETWEEN DISTRICTS;

1 **(4) THE POPULATION OF ALL CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS SHALL BE**
2 **EQUAL TO THE GREATEST EXTENT PRACTICABLE; AND**

3 **(5) GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS AND**
4 **CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF §**
5 **8-7A-05(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

6 **(B) (1) FOLLOWING THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF**
7 **THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL ADJUST THE BOUNDARY LINES ACCORDING**
8 **TO THE CRITERIA SET FORTH AND PRIORITIZED IN THIS SUBTITLE.**

9 **(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE WITH ITS FINAL MAPS A REPORT**
10 **THAT:**

11 **(I) EXPLAINS THE BASIS ON WHICH THE COMMISSION MADE**
12 **THE DECISIONS IN ACHIEVING COMPLIANCE WITH THE CRITERIA; AND**

13 **(II) INCLUDES DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS AND STANDARDS**
14 **USED IN DRAWING THE FINAL MAPS.**

15 **(C) GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS AND CONGRESSIONAL**
16 **DISTRICTS SHALL BE NUMBERED CONSECUTIVELY COMMENCING AT THE**
17 **NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY OF THE STATE AND ENDING AT THE SOUTHEASTERN**
18 **BOUNDARY.**

19 **(D) IN DEVELOPING THE MAPS, THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

20 **(1) HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS;**

21 **(2) PROVIDE ACCESS TO REDISTRICTING DATA AND SOFTWARE; AND**

22 **(3) OTHERWISE ENSURE FULL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE**
23 **REDISTRICTING PROCESS.**

24 **8-7A-04.**

25 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

26 **(1) CONDUCT AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS ENABLING FULL**
27 **PUBLIC CONSIDERATION OF AND COMMENT ON THE DRAWING OF DISTRICT LINES;**

28 **(2) DRAW GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT AND**
29 **CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT LINES ACCORDING TO THE REDISTRICTING CRITERIA**

1 SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBTITLE; AND

2 (3) CONDUCT ITS BUSINESS WITH INTEGRITY AND FAIRNESS.

3 (B) (1) THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE COMMISSION IS DESIGNED TO
4 PRODUCE A COMMISSION THAT IS INDEPENDENT FROM LEGISLATIVE INFLUENCE
5 AND REASONABLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE'S DIVERSITY.

6 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING NINE
7 MEMBERS:

8 (I) THREE MEMBERS REGISTERED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY
9 THAT HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE;

10 (II) THREE MEMBERS REGISTERED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY
11 THAT HAS THE SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE;
12 AND

13 (III) THREE MEMBERS NOT REGISTERED WITH EITHER OF THE
14 TWO POLITICAL PARTIES THAT HAVE THE HIGHEST AND SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER
15 OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE.

16 (3) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

17 (I) SHALL BE A VOTER WHO, FOR 5 OR MORE YEARS
18 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S APPOINTMENT, HAS
19 BEEN REGISTERED CONTINUOUSLY IN THE STATE WITH THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY
20 OR HAS BEEN UNAFFILIATED WITH A POLITICAL PARTY AND HAS NOT CHANGED
21 POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION; AND

22 (II) 1. MAY NOT HAVE BEEN A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO
23 OR SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR OF CONGRESS FROM
24 THIS STATE DURING THE 5 YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE
25 INDIVIDUAL'S APPOINTMENT, OR AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER ESTABLISHED
26 THROUGH BLOOD OR LEGAL RELATION OF SUCH CANDIDATE OR MEMBER;

27 2. MAY NOT BE A REGULATED LOBBYIST IN THIS STATE;
28 AND

29 3. MAY NOT BE OR HAVE SERVED AS STAFF OR A
30 CONSULTANT TO A PERSON UNDER A CONTRACT WITH, OR ANY PERSON WITH AN
31 IMMEDIATE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP THROUGH BLOOD OR LEGAL RELATION TO, THE
32 GOVERNOR, A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OR A MEMBER OF CONGRESS

1 FROM THIS STATE.

2 (4) THE TERM OF OFFICE OF EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION
3 EXPIRES ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRST MEMBER OF THE SUCCEEDING
4 COMMISSION.

5 (5) (I) SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSTITUTE
6 A QUORUM.

7 (II) SIX OR MORE AFFIRMATIVE VOTES OF THE COMMISSION
8 SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR ANY OFFICIAL ACTION, INCLUDING ANY FINAL PROPOSED
9 MAPS AND PLANS FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS OR
10 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION.

11 (6) EACH MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION SHALL:

12 (I) APPLY THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE IN A MANNER
13 THAT IS IMPARTIAL AND THAT REINFORCES PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE INTEGRITY
14 OF THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS; AND

15 (II) BE INELIGIBLE FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS BEGINNING FROM
16 THE DATE OF APPOINTMENT:

17 1. TO HOLD APPOINTIVE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL
18 PUBLIC OFFICE;

19 2. TO SERVE AS PAID STAFF FOR THE GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OR ANY INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATOR; OR

21 3. TO REGISTER AS A FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, OR
22 MUNICIPAL LOBBYIST IN THE STATE.

23 8-7A-05.

24 (A) (1) EACH GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT SHALL
25 COMPLY WITH ARTICLE III, §§ 2, 3, AND 4 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION.

26 (2) EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SHALL:

27 (I) COMPLY WITH THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION;

28 (II) COMPLY WITH THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT;

1 (III) BE EQUAL IN POPULATION, EXCEPT WHERE DEVIATION IS
2 REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT (42 U.S.C. SEC.
3 1971 AND FOLLOWING) OR IS ALLOWABLE BY LAW;

4 (IV) WITHOUT VIOLATING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS
5 SECTION, RESPECT THE GEOGRAPHIC INTEGRITY OF ANY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
6 OR COUNTY, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE;

7 (V) BE GEOGRAPHICALLY CONTIGUOUS; AND

8 (VI) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, AND IF IT DOES NOT
9 CONFLICT WITH THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN ITEMS (I) THROUGH (V) OF THIS
10 PARAGRAPH, BE DRAWN TO ENCOURAGE GEOGRAPHIC COMPACTNESS SO THAT
11 NEARBY AREAS OF POPULATION ARE NOT BYPASSED FOR MORE DISTANT AREAS OF
12 POPULATION.

13 (B) THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE OF AN INCUMBENT OFFICEHOLDER OR THE
14 CANDIDATE FOR A POLITICAL PARTY OR OF ANY OTHER PERSON MAY NOT BE
15 CONSIDERED IN THE CREATION OF A MAP.

16 (C) BY SEPTEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR ENDING IN THE NUMBER ONE, THE
17 COMMISSION SHALL APPROVE A FINAL MAP THAT SEPARATELY SETS FORTH THE
18 DISTRICT BOUNDARY LINES FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND
19 FOR THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OF THIS STATE.

20 (D) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE WITH EACH FINAL MAP A REPORT
21 THAT:

22 (I) EXPLAINS THE BASIS ON WHICH THE COMMISSION MADE ITS
23 DECISIONS TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED UNDER THIS
24 SUBTITLE; AND

25 (II) INCLUDES DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS AND STANDARDS
26 USED IN DRAWING EACH FINAL MAP.

27 (2) ON ADOPTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT ITS CERTIFIED
28 FINAL MAPS AND PLANS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

29 8-7A-06.

30 (A) THE COMMISSION:

31 (1) HAS THE SOLE LEGAL STANDING TO DEFEND ANY ACTION

1 REGARDING A CERTIFIED FINAL MAP AND PLAN; AND

2 (2) SHALL INFORM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF THE COMMISSION
3 DETERMINES THAT FUNDS OR OTHER RESOURCES PROVIDED FOR THE OPERATION
4 OF THE COMMISSION ARE NOT ADEQUATE.

5 (B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING TO
6 DEFEND ANY ACTION REGARDING A CERTIFIED FINAL MAP AND PLAN.

7 8-7A-07.

8 (A) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL FORWARD CERTIFIED FINAL MAPS
9 AND PLANS SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION TO THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE
10 GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE INTRODUCTION BY THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF A
11 SEPARATE BILL CONTAINING:

12 (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT PLAN; AND

13 (2) THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT PLAN.

14 (B) (1) A FINAL CERTIFIED MAP AND PLAN INTRODUCED BY THE
15 PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY NOT BE AMENDED.

16 (2) A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY NOT INTRODUCE A
17 BILL CONTAINING A GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OR
18 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT PLAN THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE CERTIFIED FINAL
19 MAPS AND PLANS PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION AND INTRODUCED BY THE
20 PRESIDING OFFICERS.

21 (C) (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROVE OR REJECT A BILL FOR
22 A GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAP
23 AND PLAN AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

24 (2) (i) 1. TO ADOPT A MAP AND PLAN, EACH HOUSE OF THE
25 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PASS THE BILL BY A VOTE OF THREE-FIFTHS OF THE
26 MEMBERS OF THAT HOUSE.

27 2. ON PASSAGE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE BILL
28 SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR FOR SIGNATURE OR VETO.

29 (ii) 1. IF THE GOVERNOR VETOES THE BILL AND THE
30 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OVERRIDES THE VETO, THE BILL SHALL BECOME LAW, IN
31 ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE II, § 17 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION.

1 **2. IF THE GOVERNOR VETOES THE BILL AND THE**
2 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY FAILS TO OVERRIDE THE VETO, IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
3 **ARTICLE II, § 17 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF**
4 **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL RETURN THE BILL TOGETHER WITH**
5 **RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY, TO THE COMMISSION AND REQUEST THAT THE**
6 **COMMISSION PROPOSE AN ALTERNATIVE MAP AND PLAN.**

7 **(3) (I) IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FAILS TO PASS THE BILL FOR A**
8 **MAP AND PLAN ON THE VOTE OF THREE-FIFTHS OF THE MEMBERS OF EITHER OR**
9 **BOTH HOUSES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE**
10 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL RETURN THE BILL TOGETHER WITH THE**
11 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IF ANY, TO THE COMMISSION**
12 **AND REQUEST THAT THE COMMISSION PROPOSE AN ALTERNATIVE MAP AND PLAN.**

13 **(II) IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FAILS TO PASS BY A**
14 **THREE-FIFTHS VOTE OF EACH HOUSE THE BILL FOR AN ALTERNATIVE MAP AND**
15 **PLAN SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION, OR IF THE BILL IS VETOED BY THE**
16 **GOVERNOR AND NOT OVERRIDDEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE COURT OF**
17 **APPEALS SHALL ESTABLISH THE MAP AND PLAN FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
18 **LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS OR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
19 **8-7A-08 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

20 **8-7A-08.**

21 **(A) THE COURT OF APPEALS HAS ORIGINAL AND EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION**
22 **IN ALL STATE COURT PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH A CERTIFIED FINAL MAP AND PLAN IS**
23 **CHALLENGED.**

24 **(B) (1) ON THE ENACTMENT OF A BILL ESTABLISHING GENERAL**
25 **ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS OR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN**
26 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 8-7A-07 OF THIS SUBTITLE, ANY REGISTERED VOTER IN THE**
27 **STATE MAY FILE A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF MANDAMUS OR A WRIT OF PROHIBITION**
28 **WITH THE COURT OF APPEALS TO BAR THE MAP AND PLAN FROM TAKING EFFECT**
29 **ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE MAP AND PLAN VIOLATE THE MARYLAND**
30 **CONSTITUTION, THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, OR A FEDERAL OR STATE**
31 **STATUTE.**

32 **(2) IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT A FINAL MAP AND PLAN IN A**
33 **BILL ESTABLISHING GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS OR**
34 **CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS VIOLATE THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE UNITED**
35 **STATES CONSTITUTION, OR A FEDERAL OR STATE STATUTE, THE COURT SHALL**
36 **ISSUE THE RELIEF THAT IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE.**

1 (C) (1) IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FAILS TO PASS BY A THREE-FIFTHS
2 VOTE OF EACH HOUSE THE BILL FOR AN ALTERNATIVE MAP AND PLAN SUBMITTED
3 BY THE COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS
4 OR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS, OR IF THE BILL IS VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR AND
5 NOT OVERRIDDEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE COMMISSION SHALL FILE A
6 PETITION WITH THE COURT OF APPEALS TO REVIEW THE MAP AND PLAN AND
7 ESTABLISH THE DISTRICTS.

8 (2) ON APPROVAL OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, ANY REGISTERED
9 VOTER OF THE STATE MAY BECOME A PARTY TO THE PROCEEDING.

10 (D) THE COURT OF APPEALS SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO RULING ON A
11 PETITION FILED UNDER THIS SECTION.

12 8-7A-09.

13 TO AMEND THIS SUBTITLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ENSURE THAT
14 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA ARE MET:

15 (1) BY THE SAME VOTE REQUIRED FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE FINAL
16 SET OF MAPS AND PLANS PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER §
17 8-7A-04(B)(5) OF THIS TITLE, THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS AMENDMENTS TO
18 THIS SUBTITLE TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE COMMISSION;

19 (2) ANY AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION IS ENACTED AS
20 A STATUTE APPROVED BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY AND SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR;

22 (3) THE BILL CONTAINING ANY AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE
23 COMMISSION IS IN PRINT FOR AT LEAST 10 DAYS BEFORE FINAL PASSAGE BY THE
24 GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

25 (4) THE AMENDMENT FURTHERS THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE;
26 AND

27 (5) THE AMENDMENT IS NOT PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN
28 A YEAR ENDING IN THE NUMBER ZERO OR THE NUMBER ONE.

29 8-7A-10.

30 (A) (1) IN EACH YEAR ENDING IN THE NUMBER ZERO, THE LEGISLATIVE
31 AUDITOR SHALL INITIATE AN APPLICATION PROCESS THAT IS OPEN TO ALL

1 REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE IN A MANNER THAT PROMOTES A DIVERSE AND
2 QUALIFIED APPLICANT POOL FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE COMMISSION.

3 (2) THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL REMOVE FROM THE
4 APPLICANT POOL INDIVIDUALS WITH CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, INCLUDING, WITHIN
5 THE 5 YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF APPLICATION, THE
6 APPLICANT, OR A MEMBER OF THE APPLICANT'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY, WHO HAS:

7 (I) BEEN APPOINTED TO, BEEN ELECTED TO, OR BEEN A
8 CANDIDATE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE OFFICE;

9 (II) SERVED AS AN OFFICER, AN EMPLOYEE, OR A PAID
10 CONSULTANT OF A POLITICAL PARTY OR OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF A
11 CANDIDATE FOR ELECTED FEDERAL OR STATE OFFICE;

12 (III) SERVED AS AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED MEMBER OF A
13 POLITICAL PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE;

14 (IV) BEEN A REGISTERED LOBBYIST FOR THE FEDERAL, STATE,
15 OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT; OR

16 (V) CONTRIBUTED \$2,000 OR MORE TO ANY CANDIDATE FOR
17 ELECTION TO A CONGRESSIONAL, STATE, OR LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICE IN ANY YEAR,
18 WHICH AMOUNT SHALL BE ADJUSTED EVERY 10 YEARS BY THE CUMULATIVE
19 CHANGE IN THE MARYLAND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX OR ITS SUCCESSOR.

20 (B) (1) THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL:

21 (I) ESTABLISH AN APPLICANT REVIEW PANEL CONSISTING OF
22 THREE QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO SCREEN APPLICANTS TO SERVE ON
23 THE COMMISSION;

24 (II) RANDOMLY DRAW THE NAMES OF THREE QUALIFIED
25 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS FROM A POOL CONSISTING OF ALL AUDITORS EMPLOYED
26 BY THE STATE AND LICENSED BY THE STATE AT THE TIME OF THE DRAWING; AND

27 (III) DRAW UNTIL THE NAMES OF THREE AUDITORS HAVE BEEN
28 DRAWN, INCLUDING:

29 1. ONE WHO IS REGISTERED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY
30 THAT HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE;

31 2. ONE WHO IS REGISTERED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY

1 THAT HAS THE SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE;
2 AND

3 3. ONE WHO IS NOT REGISTERED WITH EITHER OF THE
4 TWO POLITICAL PARTIES THAT HAVE THE HIGHEST AND SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER
5 OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE.

6 (2) (I) AFTER THE DRAWING, THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL
7 NOTIFY THE THREE QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITORS WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN
8 DRAWN THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO SERVE ON THE PANEL.

9 (II) IF ANY OF THE THREE QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITORS
10 DECLINE TO SERVE ON THE PANEL, THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL RESUME THE
11 RANDOM DRAWING UNTIL THREE QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITORS WHO MEET
12 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE HAVE AGREED TO SERVE ON THE PANEL.

13 (III) A MEMBER OF THE PANEL SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE
14 CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

15 (3) NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 1 OF EACH YEAR ENDING IN THE
16 NUMBER ZERO AND AFTER REMOVING INDIVIDUALS WITH CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
17 FROM THE APPLICANT POOL, THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL:

18 (I) PUBLICIZE THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUALS IN THE
19 APPLICANT POOL FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE COMMISSION; AND

20 (II) PROVIDE COPIES OF THE APPLICATIONS OF THE NAMES IN
21 THE APPLICANT POOL TO THE PANEL.

22 (4) (I) FROM THE APPLICANT POOL, THE PANEL SHALL SELECT 30
23 OF THE MOST QUALIFIED APPLICANTS, INCLUDING:

24 1. 10 APPLICANTS WHO ARE REGISTERED WITH THE
25 POLITICAL PARTY THAT HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE
26 STATE;

27 2. 10 APPLICANTS WHO ARE REGISTERED WITH THE
28 POLITICAL PARTY THAT HAS THE SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED
29 VOTERS IN THE STATE; AND

30 3. 10 APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH
31 EITHER OF THE TWO POLITICAL PARTIES THAT HAVE THE HIGHEST AND
32 SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE.

1 **(II) THE SUBPOOLS SHALL BE CREATED ON THE BASIS OF**
2 **RELEVANT ANALYTICAL SKILLS, ABILITY TO BE IMPARTIAL, AND APPRECIATION FOR**
3 **THE STATE'S DIVERSE DEMOGRAPHICS AND GEOGRAPHY.**

4 **(III) THE MEMBERS OF THE PANEL MAY NOT COMMUNICATE**
5 **WITH ANY MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR CONGRESS OR THEIR**
6 **REPRESENTATIVES ABOUT ANY MATTER RELATED TO THE NOMINATION PROCESS OR**
7 **APPLICANTS BEFORE THE PRESENTATION BY THE PANEL OF THE POOL OF**
8 **RECOMMENDED APPLICANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE CHIEF**
9 **CLERK OF THE HOUSE.**

10 **(C) (1) NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20 OF EACH YEAR ENDING IN THE**
11 **NUMBER ZERO, THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL RANDOMLY DRAW NINE NAMES**
12 **FROM THE REMAINING NAMES IN THE APPLICANT POOL AS FOLLOWS:**

13 **(I) THREE NAMES FROM THE REMAINING SUBPOOL OF**
14 **APPLICANTS REGISTERED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY THAT HAS THE HIGHEST**
15 **NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE;**

16 **(II) THREE NAMES FROM THE REMAINING SUBPOOL OF**
17 **APPLICANTS REGISTERED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY THAT HAS THE**
18 **SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE; AND**

19 **(III) THREE NAMES FROM THE REMAINING SUBPOOL OF**
20 **APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH EITHER OF THE TWO POLITICAL**
21 **PARTIES THAT HAVE THE HIGHEST AND SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED**
22 **VOTERS IN THE STATE.**

23 **(2) THE NINE INDIVIDUALS SELECTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF**
24 **THIS SUBSECTION SHALL SERVE ON THE COMMISSION.**

25 **8-7A-11.**

26 **(A) (1) IN THE EVENT OF SUBSTANTIAL NEGLECT OF DUTY, GROSS**
27 **MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE, OR INABILITY TO DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF OFFICE, A**
28 **MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION MAY BE REMOVED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE**
29 **CONCURRENCE OF TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AFTER HAVING**
30 **BEEN SERVED WRITTEN NOTICE AND PROVIDED WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A**
31 **RESPONSE.**

32 **(2) A FINDING OF SUBSTANTIAL NEGLECT OF DUTY OR GROSS**
33 **MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE MAY RESULT IN REFERRAL TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

1 FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION OR THE APPROPRIATE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY FOR
2 INVESTIGATION.

3 (B) (1) A VACANCY, WHETHER CREATED BY REMOVAL, RESIGNATION, OR
4 ABSENCE, IN A COMMISSION POSITION SHALL BE FILLED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER
5 THE VACANCY OCCURS FROM THE POOL OF APPLICANTS OF THE SAME VOTER
6 REGISTRATION CATEGORY AS THE VACATING NOMINEE THAT WAS REMAINING AS OF
7 NOVEMBER 20 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THAT POOL WAS ESTABLISHED.

8 (2) IF NONE OF THE REMAINING APPLICANTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)
9 OF THIS SUBSECTION ARE AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE, THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
10 SHALL FILL THE VACANCY FROM A NEW POOL CREATED FOR THE SAME VOTER
11 REGISTRATION CATEGORY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 8-7A-10 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

12 8-7A-12.

13 (A) (1) THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION ARE SUBJECT TO
14 APPLICABLE STATE LAW GOVERNING OPEN MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC
15 INFORMATION.

16 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE NOT LESS THAN 14 DAYS'
17 PUBLIC NOTICE FOR EACH MEETING, EXCEPT THAT MEETINGS HELD IN SEPTEMBER
18 OF THE YEAR ENDING IN THE NUMBER ONE MAY BE HELD WITH 3 DAYS' NOTICE.

19 (B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
20 COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF MAY NOT COMMUNICATE WITH OR RECEIVE
21 COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT REDISTRICTING MATTERS FROM ANYONE OUTSIDE A
22 PUBLIC HEARING.

23 (2) COMMUNICATION BETWEEN COMMISSION MEMBERS, STAFF,
24 LEGAL COUNSEL, AND CONSULTANTS RETAINED BY THE COMMISSION IS ALLOWED.

25 (C) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL SELECT ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
26 COMMISSION TO SERVE AS CHAIR.

27 (2) THE CHAIR SHALL BE ONE OF THE MEMBERS NOT AFFILIATED
28 WITH EITHER OF THE TWO POLITICAL PARTIES THAT HAVE THE HIGHEST AND
29 SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE STATE.

30 (D) (1) THE COMMISSION MAY HIRE STAFF, LEGAL COUNSEL, AND
31 CONSULTANTS AS NEEDED.

32 (2) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH CLEAR CRITERIA FOR THE

1 HIRING AND REMOVAL OF THE INDIVIDUALS SPECIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF
2 THIS SUBSECTION, COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS, AND A CODE OF CONDUCT.

3 (3) THE COMMISSION SHALL ENSURE THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THE
4 LEGAL COUNSEL HIRED BY THE COMMISSION HAS DEMONSTRATED EXTENSIVE
5 EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IN IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE
6 FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT (42 U.S.C. SEC. 1971 AND FOLLOWING).

7 (4) THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE HIRING, REMOVAL, OR
8 CONTRACTING DECISIONS ON STAFF, LEGAL COUNSEL, AND CONSULTANTS BY SIX
9 OR MORE AFFIRMATIVE VOTES.

10 (E) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, AN EMPLOYER MAY
11 NOT DISCHARGE, THREATEN TO DISCHARGE, INTIMIDATE, COERCE, OR RETALIATE
12 AGAINST ANY EMPLOYEE BY REASON OF THE EMPLOYEE'S ATTENDANCE OR
13 SCHEDULED ATTENDANCE AT ANY MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.

14 (F) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT AN OPEN
15 HEARING PROCESS FOR PUBLIC INPUT AND DELIBERATION THAT IS:

16 (I) SUBJECT TO PUBLIC NOTICE; AND

17 (II) DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE CITIZEN OUTREACH AND
18 SOLICIT BROAD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REDISTRICTING PUBLIC REVIEW
19 PROCESS.

20 (2) (I) 1. THE HEARING PROCESS SHALL INCLUDE HEARINGS
21 TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT BEFORE THE COMMISSION DRAWS ANY MAPS AND
22 HEARINGS FOLLOWING THE DRAWING AND DISPLAY OF ANY COMMISSION MAPS.

23 2. HEARINGS SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTED WITH OTHER
24 ACTIVITIES AS APPROPRIATE TO FURTHER INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE
25 PUBLIC TO OBSERVE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE REVIEW PROCESS.

26 (II) 1. THE COMMISSION SHALL DISPLAY THE MAPS FOR
27 PUBLIC COMMENT IN A MANNER DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THE WIDEST PUBLIC
28 ACCESS REASONABLY POSSIBLE.

29 2. PUBLIC COMMENT SHALL BE TAKEN FOR AT LEAST 14
30 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLIC DISPLAY OF ANY MAP.

31 (G) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO
32 ENSURE THAT A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COMPUTERIZED DATABASE IS

1 AVAILABLE FOR REDISTRICTING AND THAT PROCEDURES ARE IN PLACE TO PROVIDE
2 THE PUBLIC READY ACCESS TO REDISTRICTING DATA AND COMPUTER SOFTWARE
3 FOR DRAWING MAPS.

4 8-7A-13.

5 A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

6 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE
7 COMMISSION; BUT

8 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
9 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

10 8-7A-14.

11 (A) IN EACH YEAR ENDING IN THE NUMBER NINE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
12 INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FUNDING
13 IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE GREATER OF \$3,000,000 OR THE AMOUNT EXPENDED
14 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING REDISTRICTING PROCESS,
15 AS EACH AMOUNT IS ADJUSTED BY THE CUMULATIVE CHANGE IN THE MARYLAND
16 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX OR ITS SUCCESSOR INDEX SINCE THE DATE OF THE
17 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPROPRIATION FOR:

18 (1) THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR;

19 (2) THE COMMISSION;

20 (3) THE SECRETARY OF STATE; AND

21 (4) THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES.

22 (B) THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE ADEQUATE OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE
23 FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION.

24 (C) (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL MAKE THE NECESSARY
25 APPROPRIATION IN THE STATE BUDGET.

26 (2) THE APPROPRIATION MADE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
27 SUBSECTION SHALL BE:

28 (I) AVAILABLE DURING THE ENTIRE 3-YEAR PERIOD; AND

1 **(II) EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT INCLUDED IN THE STATE BUDGET**
2 **UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.**

3 **(D) THE COMMISSION, WITH FISCAL OVERSIGHT FROM THE DEPARTMENT**
4 **OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, SHALL HAVE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING**
5 **AUTHORITY.**

6 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
7 determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this
8 Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the Maryland
9 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

10 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
11 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
12 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2018 for adoption
13 or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
14 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
15 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against
16 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
17 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
18 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
19 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.

20 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take
21 effect on the taking effect of Section 1 of this Act. If Section 1 of this Act does not take effect,
22 Section 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

23 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in
24 Sections 4 and 5 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 2018.