A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Congressional Districts – Standards

FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to require congressional districts to conform to certain standards and that due regard be given to certain boundaries; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.

BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution

New Article XX – Congressional Districts

Section 1

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

ARTICLE XX – CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

1. EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SHALL CONSIST OF ADJOINING TERRITORY, BE COMPACT IN FORM, AND BE OF SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL POPULATION. DUE REGARD SHALL BE GIVEN TO NATURAL BOUNDARIES AND THE BOUNDARIES OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.

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

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2020 for adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.