

HOUSE BILL 965

G1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

1lr2408

By: **Delegate Parrott**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2021

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Congressional Districts – Standards**

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

7 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
8 New Article XX – Congressional Districts
9 Section 1

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

13 **ARTICLE XX – CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS**

14 **1.**

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

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

23 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
2 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2022 for adoption or
3 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
4 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
5 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against
6 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
7 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
8 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
9 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.