

SENATE BILL 55

P1
SB 433/20 – EHE

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
(PRE-FILED)

11r0973

By: **Senator Sydnor**

Requested: October 14, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Legislative Department – Eligibility to Serve as Senators and Delegates – Place**
3 **of Abode**

4 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to establish
5 that a person is eligible to serve as a Senator or Delegate if the person has
6 maintained a place of abode for a certain period of time under certain circumstances
7 in the district that the person has been chosen to represent; making stylistic changes;
8 and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption
9 or rejection.

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

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

16 **Article III – Legislative Department**

17 9.

18 A person is eligible to serve as a Senator or Delegate, who on the date of [his] **THE**
19 **PERSON'S** election, (1) is a citizen of the State of Maryland, (2) has resided therein for at
20 least one year next preceding that date, and (3) if the district [which he] **THAT THE**
21 **PERSON** has been chosen to represent has been established for at least six months prior to
22 the date of [his] **THE PERSON'S** election, has resided **AND MAINTAINED A PLACE OF**
23 **ABODE** in that district for six months next preceding that date.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 If the district [which] **THAT** the person has been chosen to represent has been
2 established less than six months prior to the date of [his] **THE PERSON’S** election, then in
3 addition to (1) and (2) above, [he] **THE PERSON** shall have resided **AND MAINTAINED A**
4 **PLACE OF ABODE** in the district for as long as it has been established.

5 A person is eligible to serve as a Senator, if [he] **THE PERSON** has attained the age
6 of twenty–five years, or as a Delegate, if [he] **THE PERSON** has attained the age of
7 twenty–one years, on the date of [his] **THE PERSON’S** election.

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

12 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That the amendment to the
13 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
14 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2022 for adoption or
15 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
16 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
17 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against
18 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
19 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
20 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
21 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.