

SB0005/213726/1

BY: Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 5
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, after “**General Assembly –**” insert “**Election District Standards,**”; in the same line, strike “**Election to Fill a Vacancy in Office**” and substitute “**Elections, and Congressional Districting Powers**”; in line 3, after “of” insert “clarifying that certain requirements apply only to districts for the election of members of the Senate of Maryland and the House of Delegates;”; in line 6, after “date” insert “; and authorizing the General Assembly to grant original jurisdiction to the Supreme Court of Maryland to review the congressional districting of the State”; in line 9, after “Section” insert “4 and”; and after line 9, insert:

“BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
Article III – Legislative Department
Section 62”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 16, insert:

“4.

Each legislative district **FOR THE ELECTION OF A MEMBER OF THE SENATE AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES** shall consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form, and of substantially equal population. Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions.”.

On page 3, after line 23, insert:

“62.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO GRANT ORIGINAL JURISDICTION TO THE SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND TO REVIEW THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTING OF THE STATE.

On page 4, strike in their entirety lines 7 through 16, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) 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 2026 for adoption or rejection in accordance with Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution.

(b) (1) 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.

(2) At that general election, a question substantially similar to the following shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State:

“Question _____ – Constitutional Amendment

The proposed Constitutional Amendment requires a special election to fill a vacancy in the General Assembly if the vacancy occurs 55 days before the filing deadline for the statewide election that occurs in the second year of the term; clarifies that certain standards in the Maryland Constitution apply only to districts used to elect members of the General Assembly; and authorizes the General Assembly to grant original jurisdiction to the Supreme Court of Maryland to review the congressional districting of the State.

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(c) 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 held in accordance with Article XIV.”.