

CIRCULAR.

Department of State,

Washington, February 27, 1869.

To his Excellency

The Governor of the State of Maryland.....

Sir: Annapolis, Maryland.

I have the honor to transmit an attested copy of a Resolution of Congress, proposing to the Legislatures of the several States a Fifteenth Article to the Constitution of the United States. The decisions of the several Legislatures upon the subject are required by law to be communicated to this Department. An acknowledgment of the receipt of this communication is requested by

Your Excellency's

Most obedient servant,

William H. Seward

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GOVERNOR  
(Miscellaneous Papers)  
1869-1870  
MSA S 1274-~~1274~~

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[CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT OF STATE FEBRUARY 27, 1869.]

**A Resolution proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.**

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two-thirds of both houses concurring,)* That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said legislatures, shall be valid as part of the Constitution, namely:

ARTICLE XV.

SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

SCHUYLER COLFAX,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

B. F. WADE,

*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

Attest:

EDWD. MCPHERSON,

*Clerk of House of Representatives.*

GEO. C. GOEHAM,

*Sec'y of Senate U. S.*



# State of Maryland

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Jan 18 1870

Gentlemen of the House Delegates of Maryland

There with honor to you a Communication from his Excellency the Governor of the State of New York accompanying the Official Copy of the Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of New York necessary from the adoption of the proposed 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. Be pleased to return these papers to this Department to be placed on file after they are duly considered by your Honorable body.

Oliver Bourne