

find that they have grossly underestimated the rate of growth of the population of the State of Maryland, so that when we project, as we must mathematically, the figure of 192 delegates in 1970 and 227 in 1980, and beyond that, we get into the three and four hundreds. These are conservative estimates at best, and so the Committee reluctantly, and with sympathy, but nevertheless recognizing the fact that it had to abide by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, the one-man, one-vote rule, decided that it was impossible to continue the one delegate per county, and consequently that system was abandoned.

Even today, using the 1960 census figures to provide one delegate for each county, there is a 65 per cent deviation existing within the presently-apportioned General Assembly of Maryland. If one establishes the mean of population, the median figure of what it takes to represent one-one hundred forty-secondth of the total population of Maryland, some counties are under-represented to the point of 35 per cent and others are over-represented to the point of 30 per cent so that there is a 65 per cent swing within the existing General Assembly of Maryland.

I should like to point out to the Committee of the Whole that if one examines the other legislatures in the United States, one will find that the national median figure for the Senate for all State legislatures is 38 Senate members, and the national median figure for the lower House bodies is one hundred—38 and 100. Using the national medians and applying them to the suggested 35-105 it is clear that in making the recommendation, the Committee has fallen within the national median quite significantly.

Of course, there are the highs and the lows. The low State Senate with 18 Senators, and House of Delegates with 35 delegates is in the State of Delaware, the state high of 67 Senators is in Minnesota, and the state high of 400 House members is in New Hampshire.

As examples of other states, which have fewer Senate and House members than the 35-105 suggested by the Committee, I refer you to the following: the large State of California, with 40 Members in the Senate and 80 in the House; Arkansas with 35-100, Arizona with 30-60, Alaska with 20-40, Colorado with 35-65, Hawaii with 25-51, Idaho with 35-70, Kentucky with 38-100, Nevada with 20-40, New Hampshire with 42-70, Oregon with 30-60, South Dakota with 35-75, Tennessee with 33-99, Utah

with 28-69, Washington with 49-99, and Wyoming with 30-61.

I might point out also that of these states, Ohio with 33 members in the Senate and 99 in the House and Tennessee with 33 and 99 has the three-to-one ratio, which the Committee recommends.

It is true that if the figures of 35 and 105 are adopted, as is suggested by the Committee, it does amount to a total elimination of 45 Senate and House members from the 185 aggregate of the House and Senate who are serving today. This is not such severe surgery as one might think when one examines what has happened recently elsewhere as a result of the restructuring of the legislatures. In Connecticut, for example, as a result of a reduction in the size of the Senate and House there was a reduction of 117 members. Likewise in Vermont 96 were eliminated. There is ample precedent for larger reductions in size.

Projecting the figure of 3,960,000 in Maryland for 1970, each Senate member would represent approximately 113,000 people and each House member would represent approximately 37,700 people.

If one examines the population of the State of Maryland from 1790 until today, one will find that there has been first of all a constant growth in the size of the State as a whole, although there were three counties which lost population between 1950 and 1960, and there were six counties which had less population in 1950 than they did in 1970. Nevertheless, despite these sporadic decreases in certain areas of the state, under the Constitution of 1776, each delegate represented approximately 2,700 people in one of the counties.

Now, it is quite impossible to put the lid on the number of people which a delegate or senator may represent, unless one wants to engage in the Swiss canton style, the town hall meeting, and have everyone in or have a significant number of people representing a state, both in the House and the Senate.

The Committee felt in recommending 35 and 105 that in this age of mass communication and with so much information available, that representation would not suffer, even though an ever-increasing number of persons were represented by a single delegate or single senator.

It was impossible to do otherwise, without getting into problems which I have discussed heretofore.