

purpose of this Article only the word "officers" shall be construed to include those holding positions and other places of employment in the State and county governments whose terms are fixed by law, but it shall not include any appointments made by the Board of Public Works, nor appointments by the Governor for terms of three years.

SEC. 2.²²² Vacant.

SEC. 3.²²³ All State and county officers elected by qualified voters (except judges of the Circuit Courts, judges of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, judges of the Court of Appeals and judges of any intermediate courts of appeal) shall hold office for terms of four years, and until their successors shall qualify.

SEC. 4.²²⁴ The term of office of all Judges and other officers, for whose election provision is made by this Constitution, shall, except in cases otherwise expressly provided herein, commence from the time of their Election. All such officers shall qualify as soon after their election as practicable, and shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices immediately upon their qualification.

SEC. 5.²²⁵ All officers to be appointed by the Governor shall hold office for the terms fixed by law. All officers appointed by County Commissioners shall hold office for terms of four years, unless otherwise duly changed by law.

SEC. 6.²²⁶ The terms of the members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore City and of the several counties shall commence on the first Monday of June next ensuing their appointment.

SEC. 7.²²⁷ Sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this Article do not apply or refer to members of any elective local board of education.

SEC. 8.²²⁸ If at any election directed by this Constitution, any two or more candidates shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, a new election shall be ordered by the Governor, except in cases specially provided for by this Constitution.

SEC. 9.²²⁹ In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of this Article and any of the other provisions of the Constitution, the provisions of this Article shall prevail, and all other provisions shall be repealed or abrogated to the extent of such inconsistency.

SEC. 10.²³⁰ Vacant.

²²² Left vacant by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²²³ Originally Article XVII, sec. 1(a), transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978. As sec. 1(a) it was amended by Chapter 10, Acts of 1966, ratified Nov. 8, 1966; Chapter 370, Acts of 1972, ratified Nov. 7, 1972.

²²⁴ Originally Article XV, sec. 9, transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²²⁵ Originally Article XVII, sec. 4, transferred by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978. As sec. 4 it was amended by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified Nov. 6, 1956.

²²⁶ Originally Article XVII, sec. 8, transferred by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²²⁷ Originally Article XVII, sec. 1(b), transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978. As sec. 1(b) it was amended by Chapter 10, Acts of 1966, ratified Nov. 8, 1966; Chapter 370, Acts of 1972, ratified Nov. 7, 1972.

²²⁸ Transferred from Article XV, sec. 4, by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²²⁹ Transferred from Article XVII, sec. 13, by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²³⁰ Repealed by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified Nov. 6, 1956.

SEC. 11.²³¹ Vacant.

SEC. 12.²³² Vacant.

SEC. 13.²³³ Vacant.

ARTICLE XVIII.²³⁴

PROVISIONS OF LIMITED DURATION.

1. Any provision of limited duration adopted pursuant to Article XIV is set forth below. As each expires, it shall stand repealed, and no further action shall be required to remove it from the Constitution.

2.²³⁵ (a) For the purpose of implementing the amendments, proposed by Chapter 523 of the Acts of 1980 (H.B. 1729) (OLR3623) or (S.B. 784) (OLR0746), concerning the creation of a consolidated Circuit Court of Baltimore City, this section temporarily is a part of Article IV - Judiciary Department, secs. 5, 25, and 26 of the Constitution. This section shall expire (in accordance with Article XIV, sec. 1A of the Constitution), when, under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, all of the judges of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City who are serving on December 31, 1982 have completed their then existing terms, or have otherwise vacated their offices without completing those terms.

(b) Each judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, who is in office on December 31, 1982, shall continue in office as a judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, for the remainder of the term to which he was appointed or elected, subject to the provisions of Article IV, sections 3, 4, 4A, 4B, and 5 of the Constitution.

(c) Each clerk and each deputy clerk of a court of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City who is in office on December 31, 1982 shall become a deputy clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City with no diminution of salary and as such shall occupy a position in the personnel merit system for the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. These persons shall serve subject to the provisions of Article IV, section 26 of the Constitution. Each person who otherwise has been employed in the office of a clerk of a court of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City in a position authorized prior to June 30, 1982, shall become an employee of the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and occupy a position in the personnel merit system for that office, with no diminution in salary, subject to the provisions of Article IV, section 26 of the Constitution.

(d) At the primary and general elections occurring in 1982 in Baltimore City, there shall be nominated and elected one clerk who shall be designated as clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City as created under the amendments proposed in section 2 of said Chapter 523, Acts of 1980. A clerk of one of the courts of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City is eligible to run in this election.

(e) The amendments to Article IV and this Article XVIII of the Constitution (proposed by the above referenced Chapter 523 of the Acts of 1980) if approved by the voters at the general election in Nov., 1980, shall take effect on January 1, 1983.

²³¹ Amended and transferred to Article XVII, sec. 1, by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²³² Repealed by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified Nov. 6, 1956.

²³³ Transferred to Article XVII, sec. 9, by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²³⁴ Added by Chapter 680, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978.

²³⁵ Added by Chapter 523, Acts of 1980, ratified Nov. 4, 1980.