

COMPARISON OF CONSTITUTIONS

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1968

CONSTITUTION OF 1867

PREAMBLE

We, the people of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious freedom, recognizing that all political power originates in the people and that all government is instituted to secure their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and acknowledging our duty and responsibility to posterity, do establish and ordain this Constitution.

ARTICLE 1. DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

Section 1.01. Freedom of Expression.

The people shall have the right peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Freedom of the press and freedom of speech shall not be abridged, each person remaining responsible for abuse of those rights.

Section 1.02. Freedom of Religion.

No law shall be made respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

We, the People of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty, and taking into our serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution of this State for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof, declare:

Article 1. That all Government of right originates from the People, is founded in compact only, and instituted solely for the good of the whole; and they have, at all times, the inalienable right to alter, reform or abolish their Form of Government, in such manner as they may deem expedient.

Art. 4. That the People of this State have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police thereof, as a free, sovereign and independent State.

Art. 10. That freedom of speech and debate, or proceedings in the Legislature, ought not to be impeached in any Court of Judicature.

Art. 13. That every man hath a right to petition the Legislature for the redress of grievances in a peaceable and orderly manner.

Art. 40. That the liberty of the press ought to be inviolably preserved; that every citizen of the State ought to be allowed to speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that privilege.

Art. 36. That as it is the duty of every man to worship God in such manner as he thinks most acceptable to Him, all persons are equally entitled to protection in their religious liberty; wherefore, no person ought by any Law to be molested in his person or estate, on account of his religious persuasion, or profession, or for his religious practice, unless, under the color of religion, he shall disturb the good order, peace or safety of the State, or shall infringe the laws of morality, or injure others in their natural, civil or religious rights; nor ought any person to be compelled to frequent, or maintain, or contribute, unless on con-