

COMPARISON OF CONSTITUTIONS

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1968

CONSTITUTION OF 1867

Multi-County Governments

Section 7.08. Establishment of Multi-County Governmental Units.

Multi-county governmental units, including intergovernmental authorities and popularly elected representative regional governments, shall consist of all or part of two or more counties. The General Assembly may provide by law for the establishment, merger, or dissolution of multi-county governmental units, or for the alteration of their boundaries, or for the powers they may exercise. The General Assembly may provide for referenda on any of these laws pertaining to a popularly elected representative regional government.

Section 7.09. Financing of Intergovernmental Authorities.

The General Assembly by law or a popularly elected representative local government by law may grant to an intergovernmental authority the power to impose and to collect service or benefit charges, to borrow money, and to collect taxes imposed by the General Assembly or by the popularly elected representative local government, but may not grant the power to impose taxes.

Credit Limitations

Section 7.10. Credit Limitations of Local Governments.

The assets or credit of a unit of local government may be given or lent to any individual, association, or corporation only if a public purpose will be served thereby, and then subject to any other restrictions prescribed by law. The act of the governing body making the gift or loan shall state the public purpose to be served, and no gift of credit or loan of credit or loan of assets shall be made without the consent of three-fifths of the members of the governing body.

Art. III, sec. 54. No County of this State shall contract any debt, or obligation, in the construction of any Railroad, Canal, or other Work of Internal Improvement, nor give, or loan its credit to, or in aid of any association, or corporation, unless authorized by an Act of the General Assembly.

Art XI, sec. 7. From and after the adoption of this Constitution, no debt (except as hereinafter excepted), shall be created by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore; nor shall the credit of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore be given, or loaned to, or in aid of any individual, association, or corporation; nor shall the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore have the power to involve the City of Baltimore in the construction of works of internal improvement, nor in granting any aid thereto, which shall involve the faith and credit of the city, nor make any appropriation therefor, unless such debt or credit be authorized by an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, and by an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, submitted to the legal voters of the City of Baltimore, at such time and place as