

## CHAPTER 528

(Senate Bill 6)

AN ACT to add new Section 139 to 157, inclusive, to Article 26 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "Courts," to follow immediately after Section 138 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "District Courts," providing for the establishment of the District Court of Maryland, the creation of districts, the number, qualifications, pay and pensions of judges, defining the jurisdiction and duties of the court and judges, providing for the administration of the court, appointment of personnel, providing for a method of appeal from decisions of the court, generally dealing with the establishment of the court, and repealing inconsistent laws.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Sections 139 to 157, inclusive, be and they are hereby added to Article 26 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "Courts," to follow immediately after Section 138 thereof, to be under the new subtitle "District Courts," and all to read as follows:

*DISTRICT COURTS**139. Creation of the District Court.*

*Pursuant to the provisions of Article IV of the Maryland Constitution of 1867 as amended, there is hereby established a District Court of Maryland which shall consist of a chief judge and the number of associate judges, prescribed by law; PROVIDED THAT NONE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THESE SECTIONS SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IN ANY DISTRICT FOR WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL POSTPONE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE DISTRICT COURT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF SECTION 41-I OF ARTICLE IV OF THE CONSTITUTION UNTIL THE EFFECTIVE DATE TO WHICH THE SAME SHALL HAVE BEEN POSTPONED.*

*140. Creation of Districts.*

*For the purpose of this subtitle, the State of Maryland shall be divided into the following districts:*

*District 1—Baltimore City.*

*District 2—Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester Counties.*

*District 3—Caroline, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Kent, and Cecil Counties.*

*District 4—Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert Counties.*

*District 5—Prince George's County.*

*District 6—Montgomery County.*

*District 7—Anne Arundel County.*

*District 8—Baltimore County.*

*District 9—Harford County.*

*District 10—Howard and Carroll Counties.*