

between sessions; (4) by constitutional provision and statute, 10¢ per mile travel allowance for one round trip per week between Annapolis and the legislator's home during the session; and (5) by statute, the option to participate in a contributory pension plan.

From 1867 through 1947 seven constitutional amendments with respect to compensation were adopted by the Maryland electorate. These amendments increased the basic compensation from "five dollars per diem" to \$1,800. From 1948 to 1964 State legislators received \$1,800 per year, supplemented by expenses for travel and other items fixed in 1958 at \$20 per day for each member.

Since 1958 several major attempts have been made to adjust legislative compensation in Maryland:

1. A bill proposing a constitutional amendment to increase the annual compensation of legislators from \$1,800 to \$3,000 was introduced in the 1958 General Assembly session but received an unfavorable report in the Senate and did not pass.

2. In November, 1962, a proposed constitutional amendment, passed by both Houses and calling for an increase in legislative compensation from \$1,800 to \$3,000 per annum was submitted to public referendum. The proposal was, however, defeated by 212,608 to 124,323.

3. In November, 1964, a constitutional amendment increasing annual compensation from \$1,800 to \$2,400 (the present salary) was approved at public referendum by 333,094 to 191,148.

4. In November, 1966, a constitutional amendment authorizing the Legislature to set the salary level for its members was defeated at the polls by 277,917 to 137,201.

5. In 1967 and 1968 recommendations for increased salaries were proposed in studies conducted by the Eagleton Institute and the Citizens Commission on the General Assembly. A similar recommendation was contained in the report of the Constitutional Convention Commission.

6. The proposed new Maryland Constitution recommended by the Constitutional Convention in January, 1968, and rejected by the electorate in May, 1968, conferred upon the Legislature the power to fix legislative compensation by statute with the proviso that a salary increase enacted during one term of office should not become effective until the next term of office. Because of this proviso, any salary change enacted by the Legislature then in office would not have become effective until after the election in November, 1970. Accordingly, in the schedule of legislation attached to the proposed Constitution and submitted to the electorate at the same time, it was provided that the annual salary of members of the Legislature during this interim period should be \$8,000. Since the proposed Constitution was rejected, this proposed increase in compensation did not become effective.

#### **IV. BACKGROUND OF ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FOR SALARY COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

Shortly after Governor Marvin Mandel took office in January, 1969, he appointed a committee to review the present Maryland Constitution and proposed new Maryland Constitution, which had been rejected seven months earlier by the Maryland electorate. The purpose of this committee was to recommend amendments to the Constitution which were urgently