

1972, shall be submitted to the legal and qualified voters thereof for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in Article 14 of the Constitution of this State; and at this general election, the vote on this proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the Constitutional Amendments" as now provided by law, and, immediately, after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendments, as directed by Article 14 of the Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article 14.

Approved May 26, 1972.

CHAPTER 373

(Senate Bill 120)

AN ACT to propose an amendment to Section 52(6) of Article III of the Constitution of Maryland, title "Legislative Department," to permit the General Assembly to reduce items in the Budget Bill pertaining to the Judiciary Department, and providing for the submission of this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That the following be and the same is hereby proposed as an amendment to Section 52(6) of Article III of the Constitution of Maryland, title "Legislative Department," the same, if adopted by the legally qualified voters of the State, as herein provided, to become a part of the Constitution of Maryland:

52.

(6) The General Assembly shall not amend the Budget Bill so as to affect either the obligations of the State under Section 34 of Article III of the Constitution, or the provisions made by the laws of the State for the establishment and maintenance of a system of public schools or the payment of any salaries required to be paid by the State of Maryland by the Constitution thereof; and the General Assembly may amend the bill by increasing or diminishing the items therein relating to the General Assembly, and by increasing or diminishing the items therein relating to the judiciary, but except as hereinbefore specified, may not alter the said bill except to strike out or reduce items therein, provided, however, that the salary or compensation of any public officer shall not be decreased during his term of office; and such bill, when and as passed by both Houses, shall be a law immediately without further action by the Governor.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the foregoing section hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be, at the next general election, to be held in this State in November, 1972, submitted to the legal and qualified voters thereof for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained