

Mr. Crisfield, from the minority of the committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT :

Section 1. There shall be a Court of Appeals, which shall have, use and exercise all and every the powers, authorities and jurisdictions, of the existing Court of Appeals, and such additional power, authority and jurisdiction as may be conferred by this Constitution, and laws made pursuant thereto ; and its judgments shall be final and conclusive, in all cases whatever.

Sec. 2. The Court of Appeals shall hold its session at the Seat of Government, at least twice in every year, or oftener, if required by law; no judgment of reversal shall be rendered, except with the concurrence of at least three of the judges thereof; and in every case decided, an opinion in writing shall be filed, and provision shall be made by law, for publishing reports of cases argued and determined in the said court.

Sec. 3. The Judges of the present Court of Appeals, shall be Judges of the Court of Appeals hereby established; and shall hold their offices during good behavior, and subject to removal as now provided; and they shall have and be entitled to receive, at stated periods, the salaries hereinafter provided, which shall not be diminished, during their continuance in office; and from and after the period, when the number of said Judges shall be reduced to four, by death, resignation or removal, the Court of Appeals shall be composed of one chief judge, who shall be styled chief justice of the State of Maryland, and three associate judges.

Sec. 4. The Judges of the Court of Appeals to be appointed in pursuance hereof, shall be citizens of the United States, and shall have resided in this State at least five years next before the time of their respective appointments, and shall continue to reside herein, while they act as Judges; they shall be selected from among those who are most distinguished for integrity, wisdom and sound legal knowledge, and appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and shall hold their offices during good behavior, removable for misbehavior, on conviction in a court of law, or shall be removed by the Governor, upon the address of the General Assembly; provided, that two-thirds of the members of each House concur in such address; and shall each, at stated times, receive for their services a salary of twenty-two hundred dollars per annum, which shall not be diminished during the time of their continuance in office.

Sec. 5. There shall be a clerk of the Court of Appeals, and he shall be appointed by the judges of the said court; he shall be a citizen of the United States and shall have resided in this State at least five years next before the time of his appointment; and shall hold his office for the term of seven years, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualify, and he shall qualify in the manner, perform the duties, and be entitled to the fees of the clerks