

1 the same way we have been organized here. I would direct
2 your attention perhaps to the meat or thrust of the
3 whole GP-8. It would be in the first sentence "The
4 General Assembly may by law call a Constitutional Con-
5 vention at any time or at any time submit to the voters
6 of the state the question of calling a Constitutional
7 Convention."

8 We felt there was a need of the first sentence
9 giving the General Assembly the authority to call the
10 convention. We learned the authority for calling the
11 convention was probably inherent in the state legislature
12 and there were several Court of Appeals cases in Maryland
13 on this point. We found that thirty-eight state
14 constitutions provide for calling of the convention and
15 all except one of the remaining states have called conven-
16 tions at one time or another.

17 However, we felt this principle had been the
18 cause for great dispute requiring sometimes court
19 adjudication. We felt we should spell out not just inherent
20 power of the legislature to call the convention but spell
21 it out in our present Constitution, because the inherent