

1           With this in mind, considering the fact that three  
2 attempted congressional redistricting laws, 1961, '63, and  
3 '65, never saw the light of day, and that Maryland turned  
4 out to be one of the four states of the Union which had  
5 ultimately to resort to the courts in order to accomplish  
6 congressional redistricting, it was thought that we should  
7 attempt within the limits possible to set up some standards  
8 and procedure.

9           At the outset, I should say that we recognize  
10 that Congress has the right at any time to pass laws  
11 pertaining to the same areas which the proposal you have  
12 before you refers to which, in effect, would preempt Maryland  
13 on any constitutional or statutory provisions, so that  
14 we do, in suggesting to you the fact that there be  
15 congressional districting constitutional law in Maryland,  
16 we do run the risk of having the area preempted. However,  
17 that risk does not seem too great on the basis of what has  
18 occurred in recent times.

19           The Federal Congress, since 1929, has really  
20 not had any standards of any genuine application with  
21 respect to congressional districts. Prior to that time,