

1 basis than one would in a larger Senate of 43, nevertheless
2 it was felt by those who testified and by the committee
3 generally in its majority recommendation that 35 would
4 serve as an ideal number because of the happy proportion
5 which is provided on a three-to-one ratio.

6 Here we felt that the three-to-one ration was
7 quite significant, and would provide, as has been recommended
8 by a great number of students of government, with the best
9 possible correlation of House to Senate with the three-
10 to-one.

11 Now, I might point out to the members of this
12 committee that if you examine the structure of both the
13 House and the Senate under all four Maryland Constitutions,
14 that never has the State of Maryland through its Consti-
15 tution allowed the General Assembly to have within its
16 own hands the determination of the ultimate numbers which
17 will serve in each House, regardless of limitation. If
18 you look at the Constitution of 1776, you will find that
19 although there were 18 counties existing in Maryland at
20 that time, that the Constitution called for but 15 Senators,
21 six to be elected from the Eastern Shore, and nine from