

today on whether we are going to forever enchain Prince George's County's elections separate or together I would have to vote to have them separate. I would not like to do that.

On the other hand, since the amendment has been made to force the counties to hold their local and state elections together, the only thing I know to do is put you in the position Mr. Boyce said you are in. I am going to vote against the City of Baltimore and hope everybody from Prince George's will do the same.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Macdonald.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: Mr. Chairman, I would request Mr. Scanlan to withdraw his motion for this reason. If he will withdraw his motion, I will move that the amendment be amended. I would request the sponsor of Amendment No. 14 to agree to this so as to add after the words "and county", which are on line 3 of Amendment No. 14, the words "except Baltimore City". Then we will have a clear-cut issue and a fair and honest issue before the House.

To repeat, I would request Mr. Scanlan to please withdraw his motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair. I would not like to overrule our honorable Chairman from Garrett County, and if he will withdraw it, then after that I will ask the sponsor of Amendment No. 14 if he will agree to amend Amendment No. 14, namely, to add the words "except Baltimore City" after the words "and county".

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Scanlan.

DELEGATE SCANLAN: If the pending amendment was phrased the way Delegate Macdonald has put it, it truly would be a divisible question and you would have at first bite the whole substantive issue before you. I would be happy to withdraw my request for appeal of the previous ruling.

However, Delegate Macdonald made clear that his amendment is contingent upon acceptance by Mr. Byrnes, and my withdrawal in turn is contingent on Mr. Byrnes' withdrawal of his acceptance.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): The Chair recognizes Delegate Hanson.

DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, a point of inquiry. I should like to ask the Chair if it will be in order for Delegate Raley's proposed amendment to leave the

matter to the General Assembly to be offered as a substitute for the amendment now on the floor which, if in order, I believe might extricate us from both the problem of appealing the ruling of the Chair and the system of circular concurrences in which we now seem to be placed.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): If this would be agreeable to sponsors of the amendment, Delegate Byrnes, and if Delegate Scanlan would withdraw his move to appeal the ruling of the Chair, I think it might possibly be done.

Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: Mr. Chairman, I would like to start the cycle by concurring, but I would like also to point out that I think we can make a decision on this question and still have open to us the option suggested by Delegates Hanson, Raley, et al.

Our Committee discussed this question of local option, and I think it is the judgment of the Committee to oppose it. There is great debate that could ensue on that one question. It is not as simple as it sounds to allow local option, but I think it has merit if we fail on this motion.

Otherwise, I would like to have a decision on it as amended by Delegate Macdonald.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Scanlan.

DELEGATE SCANLAN: Since the sponsor has indicated he will accept Mr. Macdonald's amendment to his amendment, I will withdraw my appeal to the ruling of the Chair. However, I do think that the situation can be tied up very quickly if we would listen to Mr. Hanson's suggestion and take up the Raley amendment at this time.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Marion.

DELEGATE MARION: Mr. Chairman, a parliamentary inquiry.

If the amendment as now before us, Amendment No. 14, in any of its parts or as amended as suggested by Delegate Macdonald, or perhaps in any other way, should be adopted by this Convention, would the Raley amendment as he outlined it a few moments ago be in order, or would we have in effect foreclosed that question?

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): I think the Raley amendment would be in order.