

*(Call for the question.)*

The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of the schedule of transitional provisions comprising the introductory paragraphs on page 1 and sections 1 to 42 inclusive, omitting section 30.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the adoption of these sections. A vote No is a vote against.

Cast your vote.

Has every delegate voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 102 votes in the affirmative and 5 in the negative, the motion carries. The schedule is adopted.

We will pass over section 30 of the schedule of transitional provisions and proceed to a consideration of the schedule of legislation. This begins on page 15 of the blue copy.

Are there any amendments with respect to the introductory paragraph beginning on line 3 of page 15?

The Chair hears none.

Are there any amendments to section 1, section 2, section 3?

My attention is called to another typographical error on line 26, page 15. Please check the spelling of "suffrage."

Are there any amendments to section 2, section 3, section 4, section 5, section 6, section 7, section 8?

Delegate Fornos, do you desire to offer your Amendment G?

DELEGATE FORNOS: I do, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: The pages will please distribute the amendment G.

This will be Amendment No. 7.

The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 7 to Committee Recommendation GP-13, by Delegate Fornos: On page 18, section 8, Salary of Governor, in line 40 strike out the words: "Forty Thousand Dollars" and insert in lieu thereof the following words: "Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars".

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment is submitted by Delegate Fornos. Is there a second? Who seconds?

DELEGATE RUSH: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Rush seconds.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Fornos.

DELEGATE FORNOS: Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, since we have heard repeatedly in the explanation of the legislative passage accompanying this constitution that the General Assembly hereafter will have the right to amend that package and put whatever figure it wants to, I feel that it would be detrimental to the welfare of the entire constitution for us to get involved in a salary dispute, especially in view of the fact that on November 8, 1966, the people of Maryland by a narrow vote of a 20,000 majority voted an increase in the salary of the governor from fifteen to twenty-five thousand. I do so because of three reasons which I feel are pertinent to the question.

(A) on April 15, the people of this State will be confronted with having to go in many cases and borrow large sums of money to pay for the recent tax increase confronting the State especially in view of the fact that the tax was not retroactive. It was retroactive in effect, but not retroactive in deductions, and I submit that many of our people including some of our rich members are going to have to find large sums of money to pay their tax bills.

Furthermore, we are confronted with an imminent federal tax increase and with the great competition for the tax dollar, I feel that nothing will more infuriate the people of this State than to think that this Constitutional Convention was nothing more than a salary grab.

I can see the justification for the increase in the legislative salary not because of my own personal interest in it, but because I feel that it is a modest increase. It is raising the level of legislators' salaries to where most people in the State feel they ought to be, but when you raise the judicial salaries and the executive salaries I can see very bad omens on the horizons and I feel that we have accomplished much too much good to have the constitution fall on the pocketbook issue.

I would like to point out to you that Allegany County voted overwhelmingly against the tax increase, Calvert County, Baltimore, Carroll County, Dorchester County, Garrett County, Harford County,