

gested here, would that be applicable throughout the State, or could there be some areas that would be single member districts and some multiple?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Some could be single member districts, others multiple member districts.

DELEGATE SOLLINS: That would be within the latitude of the legislature.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: There are 55 legislative bodies in the United States, including both senates and houses, out of 99, that are currently using this system.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Delegate Sherbow.

DELEGATE SHERBOW: I understood earlier in the day when we began this discussion that the attempt was to limit the amendments to the subject of the number of representatives in the General Assembly, and the matter of how they shall be elected. The matter of districts was taken out of the Committee's proposal and later also taken out of the first amendment to the proposal. I take it then that on this amendment, if we are going to follow the other precedents, the only matter that would be before us would be the total number and the ratio of that number as between the senate and the house. Am I correct?

THE CHAIRMAN: The only way we could accomplish that with the amendment drawn the way it is is to separate the amendment into two parts, the first consisting of lines 8 down to and including the first two words of line 18, and the second one consisting of lines 18 to 21.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I believe it is susceptible of division.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does Delegate Sherbow desire such division?

DELEGATE SHERBOW: I so move.

I would like to see us keep that orderly procedure, because one part I may be for and another part I may be against, and there may be others in the same situation.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think it is dubious that it can be divided quite that way. As a practical matter I think we should do so. Therefore, the Chair will provide the question. The question before you when the amendment is offered will be as I have indicated.

Are there any further questions of the minority spokesman?

Delegate Sollins.

DELEGATE SOLLINS: Delegate Gilchrist, as I understand it, the maximum number that we could have in the House under the proposal would be 144?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: That is correct. When you establish a three-to-one ratio, or a four-to-one ratio—

DELEGATE SOLLINS: Based on population figures we have for 1970, Delegate Gilchrist, how many counties, even at 144 would still not have a delegate that they could call their own?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Thank you for asking that question.

We have districted the Senate on the basis of the estimated population in 1970, and the only place in which there is any problem with this is that there is a possibility, obviously, where there are groups of counties, that you may not have one; but if a four-to-one ratio were established, for example, and a maximum of 144, there would be two senators and eight delegates from the Eastern Shore, excluding Cecil County.

This would permit one delegate to be elected from each of the counties that are involved in the district.

I am not saying that these necessarily will be elected from there. What I say is that there is a possibility of people being elected from each of those counties, and this is the only system I have seen that does provide it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sollins, just a minute.

Delegate Gilchrist, did you mean that answer, one delegate for each county? You would have four delegates in each county.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Four delegates in each senatorial district.

DELEGATE SOLLINS: But you are not suggesting in your recommendation a resident requirement, are you?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: No.

DELEGATE SOLLINS: Four delegates could come from one county and none from another, under your proposal?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: I think you would find it very difficult to get in the