

bility and permanence, and consequently is entitled to favorable action.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Cardin.

DELEGATE CARDIN: I rise not to speak in opposition, but as one of the sponsors, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to offer an amendment to our amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is the amendment printed?

DELEGATE CARDIN: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is it a mere modification?

DELEGATE CARDIN: It is merely a modification.

THE CHAIRMAN: State it, please.

DELEGATE CARDIN: In line 4 I would like, after the word "increase" to strike out "or decrease."

THE CHAIRMAN: The sponsor desires to modify Amendment No. 19 by striking the words "or decrease" in line 4. The modification shall be permitted.

DELEGATE CARDIN: I should like to explain that I believe this has caused some confusion and difficulty in our presentation. The idea was to inject as much flexibility into this provision of the constitution as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Gleason.

DELEGATE GLEASON: Mr. Chairman, sometimes I despair a little as to whether we have spoken clearly about what we are attempting to do here. Perhaps this feeling just comes from the fact that I have been on the losing side so long, but I do think that some of the sponsors of this amendment did not listen too carefully to the arguments that were raised in support of the minority report of the amendment that was just defeated.

What was said there was that the legislative body should be enabled to trim their mast to fit the storm, not that a legislative body in a preceding General Assembly should be able to set the schedule, and that is what this amendment proposes.

If there is a decrease passed by the existing General Assembly, what it will be saying to the following successive General Assembly is: you may be able to do it in 90 days, but, friend, you have to do it in the time period that we have set the law for.

I hope this amendment is rejected.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Bard.

DELEGATE BARD: Mr. Chairman, I should like to speak in opposition to the amendment, and the reason for it is as follows: those of us who put together the minority report, [LB-1(F)], Amendment No. 18, were deeply concerned about the fact that when a problem faces the State of Maryland, the time to deal with it is now, that you should not run away from the problem, that you should not be overly concerned about the press or the League of Women Voters, or the government, or whatever, but the focus must be on the problem. As a matter of fact, from what I know about the League of Women Voters, they like to deal with this type of thing, and I am sure this is true of the press, and therefore what this is doing is saying we think this problem is serious, but we are not going to handle it. We will turn it over to someone else so we will not be blamed for the result, nor will we have the problem of making decisions on our conscience.

To my way of thinking it is a 'round about way of dealing with this whole concept of having the legislature really take the bull by the horns at the time they need to do it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any other debate?

*(There was no response.)*

Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 19 to Committee Recommendation LB-1. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of Amendment No. 19. A vote No is a vote against.

Cast your votes.

Will the doorman please see if there are any delegates in the corridor?

Has every delegate voted? There are ap-