

this happened in the past, I think there should be some safeguard for the people of the state, and therefore I support Delegate Hutchinson on his amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: I would like just to speak to the point Mr. Siewierski mentioned that there were four items that were rejected by the people which the General Assembly then re-enacted.

One I happen to know was congressional redistricting. I worked very hard to get that petition and get it rejected but I would have been aghast had the General Assembly not had the authority at that point to reconsider and come up with other plans. To put a moratorium on the General Assembly at that point would have been absolutely ridiculous.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. Chairman and members of the house, I see no harm in this amendment. In fact, I think it is a very good amendment because, as a practical matter when the right of referendum has been denied by putting a high requirement on it so that it is almost prohibitive, I wonder when we will ever need this. There will be very few laws that are ever taken out on referendum and if the people do knock them down, they will be in a small minority. Most of them are approved. And so I say that for those isolated cases this is a very good amendment, that the legislature should be required to have a three-fifths vote, if it overrides the will of the people. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, in view of the restrictive provisions of the referendum provision, which we have now put in, I am in favor of this amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Cardin.

DELEGATE CARDIN: Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in opposition to this amendment. First, I have enough confidence in the intelligence of the General Assembly that if they should see fit to override a vote of the people, as occurred in the last Bay Bridge situation, they would do so with sufficient majority in both houses to make quite certain they know what they are doing and why.

Second, I would also like to suggest it probably was the recent situation of a referendum and eventual re-enactment that occurred, and perhaps the figures would ex-

plain to all, the voting history on the Bay Bridge Bill. Of the 280,000 votes cast against the Bay Bridge building, 101,000 negative votes came from Baltimore County; 242,000 voted for, that is, in approval of the Bay Bridge. Actually the total was only some odd 40,000 votes difference, basically coming from one locale. I do not think this was sufficient to tie the hands of the General Assembly. Testimony from the legislative leaders proved that the negative votes were overwhelmingly from one county and did not represent the feeling of the electorate state wide. Since this became a parochial issue, the legislature felt the best interests of the entire State would be served by the passage of the 1967 bridge bill.

Three-fifths vote, as we now have the Hostetter amendment, is evidently not too difficult to obtain. I think it is unnecessary in the present constitution.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other member wish to be heard on this amendment? The question will be submitted on Amendment No. 13 to Committee Recommendation S&E-1. All in favor of adoption of Amendment No. 13 say Aye.

DELEGATE HUTCHINSON: I would like to have the benefit of a roll call vote.

THE CHAIRMAN: Has every member registered his vote on Amendment No. 13?

*(Whereupon, a roll call vote was taken.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The Clerk will take the roll.

There being 27 votes in the affirmative and 79 in the negative, Amendment No. 13 fails for want of a constitutional majority.

Are there any other amendments to be submitted to sections? If not, I recognize Delegate Gilchrist.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Mr. Chairman, I should like to call a new amendment designated LL.

THE CHAIRMAN: This is Amendment No. 14, designated LL at the top. I think it would be proper to have this read in full since this is a rewrite of the entire work of the day. I think it deserves sufficient attention to have the Clerk read it in full.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 14 to Committee Recommendation S&E-1, by Delegates Gilchrist, Scanlan and Freedlander.

In Committee Recommendation S&E-1, on page 1 strike all of lines 9 through 24; on