

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

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APPENDIX I

MARYLAND CONSTITUTIONS: THE PREAMBLE

The Present Constitution

*We, the People of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty, and taking into our serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof, declare:*¹⁷³

1867 Constitution

Basically the same as the present, with minor differences in capitalization.

1864 Constitution

Basically the same as the present, with minor differences in capitalization.

1851 Constitution

Basically the same as the present, with minor differences in capitalization.

1776 Constitution

The parliament of Great Britain, by a declaratory act, having assumed a right to make laws to bind the Colonies in all cases whatsoever, and, in pursuance of such claim, endeavoured by force of arms, to subjugate the United Colonies to an unconditional submission to their will and power, and having at length constrained them to declare themselves independent States, and to assume government under the authority of the people;—Therefore, We, the Delegates of Maryland, in free and full Convention assembled, taking into our most serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State, for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof, Declare.

¹⁷³ p. 45.