

## DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

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yet the Legislature may, in their discretion, lay a general and equal tax, for the support of the Christian religion; leaving to each individual the power of appointing the payment over of the money, collected from him, to the support of any particular place of worship or minister, or for the benefit of the poor of his own denomination, or the poor in general of any particular county; but the churches, chapels, glebes, and all other property now belonging to the church of England, ought to remain to the Church of England forever. And all acts of Assembly, lately passed, for collecting monies for building or repairing particular churches or chapels of ease, shall continue in force, and be executed, unless the Legislature shall, by act, supersede or repeal the same; but no county court shall assess any quantity of tobacco, or sum of money, hereafter, on the application of any vestrymen or church wardens; and every encumbent of the church of England, who hath remained in his parish, and performed his duty, shall be entitled to receive the provision and support established by the act, entitled, 'An act for the support of the clergy of the church of England, in this Province,' till the November court of this present year, to be held for the county in which his parish shall lie, or partly lie, or for such time as he hath remained in his parish, and performed his duty.

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### APPENDIX III

#### MARYLAND CONSTITUTIONS: RELIGIOUS TESTS

##### The Present Constitution

**Art. 37.** That no religious test ought ever to be required as a qualification for any office of profit or trust in this State, other than a declaration of belief in the existence of God; nor shall the Legislature prescribe any other oath of office than the oath prescribed by this Constitution.<sup>175</sup>

##### 1867 Constitution

Same as present.

##### 1864 Constitution

**Art. 37.** That no other test or qualification ought to be required on admission to any office of trust or profit, than such oath or allegiance and fidelity to this State and the United States as may be prescribed by this constitution, and such oath of office and qualification as may be prescribed by this constitution, or by the laws of the State, and a declaration of belief in the Christian religion, or in the existence of God and in a future state of rewards and punishments.

##### 1851 Constitution

**Art. 34.** That no other test or qualification ought to be required, on admission to any office of trust or profit, than such oath or office as may be prescribed by this constitution, or by the laws of the State, and a declaration of belief in the Christian

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<sup>175</sup> p. 50.