

Preamble.

And whereas, sundry corps of artillery, riflemen, and cavalry, and light infantry, have been organized, uniformed, and equipped in this state, and attached to the general militia, or formed into separate and independent brigades, regiments, and battalions, and squadrons; therefore,

Volunteer
corps.
Organiza-
tion con-
firmed.
Proviso.

SEC. 6. *And be it enacted*, That such corps may, and shall respectively retain their present organization; *Provided*, such corps, or a majority of the members thereof, shall wish to do so, they or their commanding officer shall so report on or before the twentieth day of September next, to the adjutant-general's office, to be therein recorded, subject nevertheless, to such modifications as may become necessary under the provisions of this act; and the governor and council are hereby authorized to appoint and commission the requisite officers to complete the organization of any of said corps, or to supply any vacancies that may hereafter occur therein; and also to organize uniform companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments, of riflemen, cavalry, light infantry, flying and heavy artillery, and to appoint and commission the requisite officers, when they shall deem the same necessary or expedient, and when any of said corps shall have uniformed themselves, the governor and council are hereby authorized to loan them the necessary arms and field pieces, for which the officer commanding shall give his bond, with sufficient security, conditioned for safe keeping and re-delivery thereof.

Subject
neverthe-
less.
Officers to
be appoint-
ed.

Organizing
other corps.

Loan them
arms.
Bonds re-
quired.

Permission
to join vo-
lunteers.

SEC. 7. *And be it enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for any white male person, above the age of twenty-one years, or between eighteen and twenty-one years of age with the consent of his parents, guardian, master or mistress, to join any uniformed militia company, willing to receive him as a member thereof, whenever the same may be formed, or forming, in the regimental, or extra battalion or squadron district or city in which such person resides; and whenever a number of men, not less than forty-eight, if of infantry, riflemen, or artillery, nor less than thirty-two if of cavalry, residing in the city of Baltimore or within any regimental, extra battalion or squadron district, shall associate and form themselves into an uniform company, and make return thereof to the commandant of any regiment, extra battalion or squadron, if in said city, or if elsewhere, then to the commandant of the regiment, extra battalion or squadron of the district within which such association hath been formed; such commandant shall thereupon inspect or cause his adjutant or any lieutenant under his command, to inspect the same; and on its appearing to him that they have associated conformably to law, he shall certify the same to the governor and council, who shall then appoint and commission such persons as may be recommended by a majority of the members of such company, to be officers thereof, provided the person designated, and the

And when
associated.

Inspection
ordered.

Certificate.
Commission
the officers.