

court, who shall hold his office until the election and qualification of his successor, who shall be elected at the next general election for members of the General Assembly; and the person so elected shall hold his office for the term of six years from the time of election.<sup>1</sup>

SEC. 18. It shall be the duty of the Judges of the Court of Appeals, as soon after their election under this Constitution as practicable, to make and publish rules and regulations for the prosecution of appeals to said appellate court whereby they shall prescribe the periods within which appeals may be taken, what part or parts of the proceedings in the court below shall constitute the record on appeal and the manner in which such appeals shall be brought to hearing or determination, and shall regulate, generally, the practice of said Court of Appeals so as to prevent delays and promote brevity in all records and proceedings brought into said court, and to abolish and avoid all unnecessary costs and expenses in the prosecution of appeals therein; and the said judge shall make such reduction in the fees and expenses of the said court, as they may deem advisable. It shall also be the duty of said Judges of the Court of Appeals, as soon after their election as practicable, to devise and promulgate by rules or orders, forms and modes of framing and filing bills, answers and other proceedings and pleadings in equity; and also forms and modes of taking and obtaining evidence, to be used in equity cases; and to revise and regulate, generally, the practice in the Courts of Equity of this State, so as to prevent delays, and to promote brevity and conciseness in all pleadings and proceedings therein, and to abolish all unnecessary costs and expenses attending the same. And all rules and regulations hereby directed to be made shall, when made, have the force of law until rescinded, changed or modified by the said judges, or the General Assembly.

### *Part III—Circuit Courts.*

SEC. 19. The State shall be divided into eight judicial circuits, in manner following, viz.: The counties of Worcester, Somerset, Dorchester and Wicomico,\* shall constitute the First Circuit; the counties of Caroline, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Kent and Cecil, the Second; the counties of Baltimore and Harford, the Third; the counties of Allegany, Washington and Garrett,† the Fourth; the counties of Carroll, Howard and Anne Arundel, the Fifth; the counties of Montgomery

<sup>1</sup>Amended by Article XVII, Section 1.

\* Wicomico formed since the adoption of this Constitution.

† Garrett formed since the adoption of this Constitution.