

SEC. 6. The power heretofore conferred upon the General Assembly to prescribe the number, compensation, powers and duties of the County Commissioners in each county, and the power to make changes in Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, Article XI of this Constitution, when expressly granted as hereinbefore provided, are hereby transferred to the voters of each county and the voters of the City of Baltimore, respectively, provided that said powers so transferred shall be exercised only by the adoption or amendment of a charter as hereinbefore provided; and provided further, that this Article shall not be construed to authorize the exercise of any powers in excess of those conferred by the Legislature upon said counties or city as this Article sets forth.

SEC. 7. The word "Petition," as used in this Article, means one or more sheets written or printed or partly written and partly printed; "Signature" means the signature of a registered voter written by himself in his own handwriting (and not by his mark), together with the ward or district and precinct in which he is registered. The authenticity of such signatures and the fact that the persons so signing are registered voters shall be evidence by the affidavit of one or more registered voters of the city or county in which said voters so signing are registered, and one affidavit may apply to or cover any number of signatures to such petition. The false signing of any name, or the signing of any fictitious name to said petitions shall be forgery, and the making of any false affidavit in connection with said petition shall be perjury.

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## ARTICLE XII.

### PUBLIC WORKS

SECTION 1. The Governor, the Comptroller of the Treasury and the Treasurer shall constitute the Board of Public Works in this State. They shall keep a journal of their proceedings, and shall hold regular sessions in the City of Annapolis on the first Wednesday in January, April, July and October in each year, and oftener if necessary; at which sessions they shall hear and determine such matters as affect the public works of the State, and as the General Assembly may confer upon them the power to decide.

SEC. 2. They shall exercise a diligent and faithful supervision of all public works in which the State may be interested as stockholder or creditor, and shall represent and vote the stock of the State of Maryland in all meetings of the stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal; and shall appoint the directors in every railroad and canal company