

Court of Appeals to make rules of practice and procedure shall be subject to the rules and regulations prescribed by the Court of Appeals or otherwise by law.

Part III—Circuit Courts.

SEC. 19. The State shall be divided into eight Judicial Circuits, in manner following, viz.: The Counties of Worcester, Somerset, and Dorchester¹, 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 and Washington², the Fourth; the Counties of Carroll, Howard and Anne Arundel, the Fifth; the Counties of Montgomery and Frederick, the Sixth; the Counties of Prince George's, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's, the Seventh; and Baltimore City, the Eighth.

SEC. 20. A Court shall be held in each County of the State, to be styled the Circuit Court for the County in which it may be held. The said Circuit Courts shall have and exercise, in the respective counties, all the power, authority and jurisdiction, original and appellate, which the present Circuit Courts of this State now have and exercise, or which may hereafter be prescribed by Law.

SEC. 21. From and after January 1, 1945, there shall be at least three judges for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh circuits, to be styled judges of the Circuit Court, to be elected or appointed as herein provided. In any of said circuits in which there shall be more than three judges (including the additional judge of the Court of Appeals), no successor to the additional judge of the Court of Appeals shall be appointed or elected as judge of said circuit. In any of said circuits in which there shall be only three judges (including an additional judge of the Court of Appeals), a successor to the additional judge of the Court of Appeals shall be appointed and elected as judge of said circuit. The aforesaid number of judges for any of the circuits shall be subject to increase or decrease by law as provided in Section 5 of this Article. The senior judge in length of service shall be the chief judge of the circuit (unless there is an additional judge of the Court of Appeals); the other judge or judges shall be associate judges.

¹ Wicomico County has been formed since the adoption of this Constitution from Worcester and Somerset Counties. Section 5 of Article 18 of this Constitution puts it in the First Judicial Circuit.

² Garrett County has been formed since the adoption of this Constitution, from Allegany County.