

ARTICLE I

CONSTITUTION

ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

SECTION 1. All elections shall be by ballot; and every white¹ male² citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, or upwards, who has been a resident of the State for one year, and of the Legislative District of Baltimore city, or of the county, in which he may offer to vote, for six months next preceding the election, shall be entitled to vote, in the ward or election district, in which he resides, at all elections hereafter to be held in this State; and in case any county, or city, shall be so divided as to form portions of different electoral districts, for the election of Representatives in Congress, Senators, Delegates or other Officers, then, to entitle a person to vote for such officer, he must have been a resident of that part of the county, or city, which shall form a part of the electoral district, in which he offers to vote, for six months next preceding the election; but a person, who shall have acquired a residence in such county or city, entitling him to vote at any such election, shall be entitled to vote in the election district from which he removed, until he shall have acquired a residence in the part of the county, or city, to which he has removed.

³SECTION 1A. The General Assembly of Maryland shall have power to provide by suitable enactment for voting by qualified voters of the State of Maryland who are absent at the time of any election from the ward or election district in which they are entitled to vote, and for the manner in which and the time and place at which such absent voters may vote, and for the canvass and return of their votes.

SEC. 2. No person above the age of twenty-one years, convicted of larceny, or other infamous crime, unless pardoned by the Governor, shall ever thereafter be entitled to vote at any election in this State; and no person under guardianship, as a lunatic, or, as a person *non compos mentis*, shall be entitled to vote.

¹The word "white" is ineffective under the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

²The word "male" became inoperative under the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

³Added by Chapter 20, Acts of 1918, ratified November 5, 1918; amended by Chapter 480, Acts of 1953, ratified by the voters November 2, 1954.