

Judges may thereafter be increased or decreased by the General Assembly by law but no such decrease shall affect the term of any Judge then in office or his right to stand for election for further terms as hereinafter provided. The Judges of said Court shall have the qualifications prescribed by Section 2 of this Article and shall have practiced law in the City of Baltimore for a total period of at least five years; shall hold office subject to the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this Article with regard to retirement and removal from office; and shall receive from the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City such compensation as shall be fixed by law by the General Assembly, which shall not be diminished during continuance in office.

The Governor shall appoint to said Court, to take office on the first Monday of May, 1941, one Associate Judge for a term expiring December 31, 1942, one Associate Judge for a term expiring December 31, 1944, and a Chief Judge for a term expiring December 31, 1946; and, upon the creation of any additional office on said Court by increase in the number of Judges pursuant to this Section, shall appoint an Associate Judge for such term, not exceeding eight years and expiring on the thirty-first day of December immediately following a Congressional election, as the law creating such office shall prescribe. If any vacancy occurs during any such original term, the Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for the remainder of such term. After the expiration of said original terms, the terms of office of said Court shall be for eight years from the expiration of the preceding term, and shall be filled as follows:

(1) Any incumbent Judge of said Court shall be eligible, at the Congressional election immediately preceding the expiration of his period of appointment or term, for election or re-election to succeed himself (a) for a full term of eight years, except as provided in (b) hereof; or (b) for the unexpired remainder of the current eight year term, if his appointment will expire before the end of such term. No person other than an incumbent Judge shall be eligible for election to said Court.

(2) Whenever a vacancy shall occur on said Court from any cause the Governor shall appoint to said Court a Judge who shall hold office under such appointment until the thirty-first day of December immediately following the first Congressional election occurring six months or more after the date of his appointment. No Judge of said Court, who has stood for election to succeed himself and not been