

of, incorporated city or town in this State, except Baltimore City, and to prescribe and from time to time to alter (1) the number, qualifications, tenure, and method of selection of the Judges of any such Court, and their powers, duties and compensation, except that the term of office or compensation of any Judge shall not be reduced during his continuance in office; (2) the jurisdiction of any such Court (which may be made exclusive as to any class or classes of civil cases in such county, or any part thereof, city or town) and the right of appeal therefrom; (3) the number, qualifications, tenure, method of selection, duties, and compensation of all constables, clerks or other employees for such Court; and (4) all other matters relating to such Court. After adoption of this Section the Governor shall not be required to appoint any particular number of Justices of the Peace in any county or in any of the several election districts of the counties as now provided in Section 42 of the Constitution.¹

Part VI—Justices of the Peace.

SEC. 42. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint such number of Justices of the Peace, and the County Commissioners of the several counties, and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, respectively, shall appoint such number of Constables, for the several Election Districts of the Counties and Wards of the City of Baltimore, as are now, or may hereafter be prescribed by Law; and Justices of the Peace and Constables, so appointed, shall be subject to removal by the Judge, or Judges having criminal jurisdiction in the county, or city, for incompetency, willful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a Court of Law. The Justices of the Peace and Constables, so appointed, and commissioned, shall be Conservators of the Peace, shall hold their office for two years, and shall have such jurisdiction, duties and compensation, subject to such right of appeal, in all cases, from the judgment of Justices of the Peace, as hath been heretofore exercised, or shall be hereafter prescribed by Law.

SEC. 43. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Justice of the Peace, the Governor shall appoint a person to serve, as Justice of the Peace, for the residue of the term; and in case of a vacancy in the office of Constable, the County Commissioners of the county in which the vacancy occurs, or the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, as the

¹ Added by Chapter 163, Acts of 1939, and ratified by the voters on November 5, 1940.