

tion 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. Any qualified person including an incumbent Judge shall be eligible for election to said Court. Provided, however, that any Judge who is in office when this act takes effect shall be entitled to have his name placed upon the ballot with no party designation and with no opposing candidate; and the voters shall cast their votes for or against the continuance in office of said Judge.

(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 elected, shall thereafter be appointed to said Court, and no Judge of said Court, who has failed to stand for election when eligible, shall be appointed to succeed himself.

(3) In order to qualify for election or re-election all candidates shall file with the Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore City not later than thirty days before the date