

LEGISLATURE
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senate Officers

William S. James, President of the Senate
 Harry R. Hughes, Majority Floor Leader
 Edward T. Hall, Minority Floor Leader
 Oden Bowie, Secretary
 Milton L. Dennis, Assistant Secretary
Vacancy, Journal Clerk
 W. Gary Gray, Assistant Journal Clerk
 James E. Jones, Reading Clerk
 C. Reba Horney, Chief Page
 Tilghman A. Rhodes, Sergeant-at-Arms

House of Delegates Officers

Thomas Hunter Lowe, Speaker
 William M. Houck, Majority Floor Leader
 John S. McInerney, Minority Floor Leader
 James P. Mause, Chief Clerk
 Mary F. Atwell, Assistant Chief Clerk
 Charles H. Cox, Journal Clerk
 William T. Schmitz, Assistant Journal Clerk
 John J. Dilli, Jr., Reading Clerk
 John F. Nixon, Sergeant-at-Arms
 L. Edwin Carr, Chief Page

The legislative powers of the State of Maryland are vested in the General Assembly, which consists of two distinct branches, the Senate and the House of Delegates (Const. 1867, Art. III, sec. 1). The General Assembly at the present time consists of 185 members: 43 Senators and 142 members of the House of Delegates, all elected by the counties and the six Legislative Districts of Baltimore City. Senators are apportioned among the several senatorial districts on an approximate population ratio. The number of Delegates for each county and each Legislative District varies from one to twenty-two (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., 1968 Supp., Art. 40).

Every Senator or Delegate must be a citizen of the State and a resident of it for at least three years preceding the date of his election; and the last year thereof, he must have resided in the county or the Legislative District of Baltimore City which he represents. A Senator must be at least twenty-five years of age at the time of his election, and a Delegate at least twenty-one. No member of Congress or any person holding a civil or military office under the United States Government nor any clergyman or minister is eligible for election to the General Assembly (III, 9, 10, 11). The term of each Senator and Delegate shall be for four years from the date of his election (XVII). The Governor is required to appoint to any vacancy that occurs in either House through death, resignation, or disqualification, a person whose name is submitted to him in writing by the State Central Committee of the County or Legislative District which the person holding the vacated seat represented and of the party to which he belonged. The person so appointed must be affiliated with that party. All persons so appointed serve for the unexpired portion of the term (III, 13). Each House elects its own officers, is judge of its own members, and establishes rules for the conduct of its business,