

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I

#### ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

<sup>1</sup> SECTION 1. All elections shall be by ballots; and every citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, or upwards, who has been a resident of the State for six months, and of the Legislative District of Baltimore city, or of the county, in which he may offer to vote, as of the time for the closing of registration 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. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, for purposes of voting for president and vice-president of the United States or for electors for those offices, the General Assembly may prescribe by law a lesser residence requirement for citizens who have resided in this state for less than six months.

<sup>2</sup> SECTION 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 voting by other qualified voters who are unable to vote personally by reason of physical disability which shall confine said voters to a hospital or cause them to be confined to bed, 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,

<sup>1</sup> Thus amended by Chapter 99, Acts of 1956, ratified November 6, 1956.

<sup>2</sup> Thus amended by Chapter 100, Acts of 1956, ratified November 6, 1956.