

**HOUSE BILL 346**  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

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P1

2002 Regular Session  
2lr1262

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By: **Delegates Rosenberg and McIntosh**  
Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2002  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 5, 2002

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CHAPTER 588

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Constitutional Amendment - Emergency Legislation - Scope**

3 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution that  
4 would authorize the General Assembly to pass emergency laws creating or  
5 abolishing any office or changing the term or duties of any officer; and  
6 submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for  
7 their adoption or rejection.

8 BY proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland  
9 Article XVI - The Referendum  
10 Section 2

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses  
13 concurring), That it be proposed that the Constitution of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article XVI - The Referendum**

15 2.

16 No law enacted by the General Assembly shall take effect until the first day of  
17 June next after the session at which it may be passed, unless it contains a Section  
18 declaring such law an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of  
19 the public health or safety and is passed upon a yea and nay vote supported by  
20 three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General  
21 Assembly. The effective date of a law other than an emergency law may be extended  
22 as provided in Section 3(b) hereof. If before said first day of June there shall have  
23 been filed with the Secretary of the State a petition to refer to a vote of the people any