

and Frederick, the sixth; the counties of Prince George's, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's, the seventh; and Baltimore City, the eighth.

1852, c 16 § 1, 75,
111, 136, 219, 336,
344, 1853, c 181,
288 406

A court in each
county
32 Md 147.

Jurisdiction.

Chief judge and
two associates
31 Md 1.

Residence

Case of tie.

Two terms a
year.

Intermediate
terms

One judge may
sit.

Special terms

Points reserved
to be heard in
banc
47 Md. 170.

Rules therefor

Right of appeal
not precluded.

Not to apply to
appeals from
justices of the
peace and cer-
tain criminal
cases.

Opinions in two
months.

Salaries not to
be diminished

SEC 20 A court shall be held in each county of the State, to be styled the Circuit Court, for the county in which it may be held. The said Circuit Courts shall have and exercise, in the respective counties, all the power, authority, and jurisdiction, original and appellate, which the present Circuit Courts of this State now have and exercise, or which may hereafter be prescribed by law.

SEC 21 For each of the said circuits (excepting the eighth), there shall be a chief judge and two associate judges, to be styled judges of the Circuit Court, to be elected or appointed, as herein provided. And no two of said associate judges shall, at the time of their election or appointment, or during the term for which they have been elected or appointed, reside in the same county. If two or more persons shall be candidates for associate judge in the same county, that one only in said county shall be declared elected who has the highest number of votes in the circuit. In case any two candidates for associate judge, residing in the same county, shall have an equal number of votes, greater than any other candidate for associate judge in the circuit, it shall be the duty of the governor to order a new election for one associate judge; but the person residing in any other county of the circuit, and who has the next highest number of votes, shall be declared elected. The said judges shall hold not less than two terms of the Circuit Court in each of the counties composing their respective circuits, at such times as are now or may hereafter be prescribed, to which jurors shall be summoned; and in those counties where only two such terms are held, two other and intermediate terms, to which jurors shall not be summoned. They may alter or fix the times for holding any or all terms until otherwise prescribed, and shall adopt rules to the end that all business not requiring the interposition of a jury shall be, as far as practicable, disposed of at said intermediate terms. One judge, in each of the above circuits, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business; and the said judges, or any of them, may hold special terms of their courts, whenever, in their discretion, the business of the several counties renders such terms necessary.

SEC 22 Where any term is held, or trial conducted by less than the whole number of said circuit judges, upon the decision or determination of any point or question by the court, it shall be competent to the party, against whom the ruling or decision is made, upon motion, to have the point or question reserved for the consideration of the three judges of the circuit, who shall constitute a court in *banc* for such purpose; and the motion for such reservation shall be entered of record during the sitting at which such decision may be made; and the several Circuit Courts shall regulate, by rules, the mode and manner of presenting such points or questions to the court in *banc*; and the decision of the said court in *banc* shall be the effective decision in the premises, and conclusive, as against the party, at whose motion said points or questions were reserved, but such decision in *banc* shall not preclude the right of appeal or writ of error to the adverse party, in those cases, civil or criminal, in which appeal or writ of error to the Court of Appeals may be allowed by law. The right of having questions reserved shall not, however, apply to trials of appeals from judgments of justices of the peace, nor to criminal cases below the grade of felony, except when the punishment is confinement in the penitentiary, and this section shall be subject to such provisions as may hereafter be made by law.

SEC 23 The judges of the respective Circuit Courts of this State, and of the courts of Baltimore city, shall render their decisions, in all cases argued before them, or submitted for their judgment, within two months after the same shall have been so argued or submitted.

SEC 24 The salary of each chief judge, and of the judge of the Court of Appeals from the city of Baltimore, shall be three thousand five hundred dol-