

1 or through the governments which are county governments
2 that are the component governments of what would be a
3 region and the people would know in advance who has
4 to sign such a petition.

5 If you just start out, even if you
6 permitted the formation of a regional government by
7 petition without outlining what the region is, no one
8 would know who would have to sign a petition. No county
9 would be included. You could select the number of
10 counties you desire and get the petitions there. The
11 same would apply to the county governments. If they
12 were to initiate any kind of regional structure, they
13 would have to have some idea of what counties they would
14 have to negotiate with to form such a region rather than
15 just forming it with the party that has the most common
16 interest initially in the adjoining county.

17 In the case of Baltimore City, it would be
18 Baltimore County. In the meantime Anne Arundel may
19 decide to form a regional government with Howard before
20 Baltimore City and Baltimore County has had a chance
21 to discuss with Anne Arundel County the formation of a