

1 the other with Constitutional Conventions.

2 Section 1 provides that an amendment shall be
3 initiated by the General Assembly by a vote of three-
4 fifths, and then goes on to indicate the necessity for
5 publication and placing the issue on the ballot.

6 Section 2, to many people appeared to call for
7 the regular holding of Constitutional Conventions if
8 the will of the people to be taken at twenty-year inter-
9 vals so indicated, but as we are all much aware this has
10 not been the case.

11 The will of the people has been construed by
12 the Courts to mean the majority, by the majority of those
13 eligible to vote, rather than the majority of those vot-
14 ing, and it is a near impossibility to secure such a
15 majority, with the result that the section has never
16 resulted in the calling of a Constitutional Convention
17 in Maryland.

18 The Committee has proposed that the entire --
19 that the provisions of Sections 1 and 2 be completely re-
20 written as follows, and I think perhaps, Mr. Chairman,
21 I should take it up section by section.