

1 now this provision in the Maryland Constitution has
2 been noted by some observers as being relatively
3 unique. It adds this measure of protection. It is by
4 far and away the majority of state Constitutions, they
5 simply say as we said here, any person mentally incom-
6 petent is ineligible to vote. It has been said the
7 Maryland Constitution and one or two others, not more,
8 with a little added measure of protection that required
9 some kind of determination of mental incompetence,
10 which is what we tried to include with our adjudica-
11 tion making this broad enough to include any official
12 commitment but the Commission objected to the word
13 adjudicated the last time around so we took it out. It
14 is not as narrow as what is presently in the Maryland
15 Constitution. It is not as broad as what is in the
16 present draft. I don't know; Mr. Martineau suggested
17 that perhaps we should redraft it simply to provide that
18 in either of these cases, conviction of a crime or
19 mental incompetent, this should be a matter for defini-
20 tion of the General Assembly.

21 The General Assembly should say when someone