

CHAPTER 159.

AN ACT to propose an amendment to Section 52 of Article III, title Legislative Department, of the Constitution of this State, regulating the making of appropriations by the General Assembly of Maryland in regular session, and to provide for the submission of said amendment to the qualified voters of this State for adoption or rejection.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, (three-fifths of all the members of each of the two houses concurring) that the following be and the same is hereby proposed as an amendment to Section 52 of Article III, title Legislative Department, of the Constitution of this State, the same, if adopted by the legally qualified voters of the State, as herein provided, to become Section 52 of Article III of the Constitution of Maryland.

SEC. 52. The General Assembly shall not appropriate any money out of the Treasury except in accordance with the following provisions:

Sub-Section A:

Every appropriation bill shall be either a Budget Bill, or a Supplementary Appropriation Bill, as hereinafter mentioned.

Sub-Section B:

First. Within twenty days after the convening of the General Assembly (except in the case of a newly elected Governor, and then within thirty days after his inauguration), unless such time shall be extended by the General Assembly for the session at which the Budget is to be submitted, the Governor shall submit to the General Assembly two budgets, one for each of the ensuing fiscal years. Each budget shall contain a complete plan of proposed expenditures and estimated revenues for the particular fiscal year to which it relates; and shall show the estimated surplus or deficit of revenues at the end of such year. Accompanying each budget shall be a statement showing: (1) the revenues and expenditures for each of the two fiscal years next preceding; (2) the current assets, liabilities, reserves and surplus or deficit of the State; (3) the debts and funds of the State; (4) an estimate of the State's financial condition as of the beginning and end of each of the fiscal years covered by the two budgets above provided; (5) any explanation the Governor may desire to make as to the important features of any budget and any suggestion as to methods for the reduction or increase of the State's revenue.