

## NO. 16.

A Joint Resolution requesting Congress to submit an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, providing that all amendments to said Constitution shall be submitted to a Referendum Vote.

WHEREAS, Under the present method of amending the Constitution of the United States it is possible for amendments to be adopted when the majority of the people are opposed to them; and

WHEREAS, Under recent decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States construing the provisions of Article 5 of the Constitution of the United States, the people of every state have in effect been deprived of any opportunity to express their views, whether directly through a referendum, or indirectly by the requirement that an election should intervene between the submission of an amendment by Congress and its ratification by the Legislature of any state; and

WHEREAS, It is contrary to the spirit of our institutions and of American liberty that any serious change should be made in our form of government without the consent of the governed; therefore,

*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Congress of the United States be and it is hereby earnestly requested to submit an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing that thereafter all such amendments shall be submitted to a Referendum Vote and that no amendment shall become a part of the Constitution unless it receives a majority of the votes cast for and against it in three-fourths of the states; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Secretary of State of Maryland be and he is hereby requested to transmit under the Great Seal of this State a copy of the foregoing Resolution to the President of the U. S. Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States and to each of the Representatives from Maryland in the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.*

Approved April 1, 1927.