

NO. 16.

(Senate Joint Resolution 15)

A Joint Resolution requesting the Governor to appoint a Commission to consider the need for a State Constitutional Convention.

WHEREAS, Maryland is one of the few States which has had no revision of its Constitution during the last seventy-five years; and

WHEREAS, the present Constitution was adopted in 1867, immediately following the war between the States; and

WHEREAS, in 1930, a majority of those voting on the question voted for the holding of a State Constitutional Convention but the General Assembly failed to make provision for such Convention; and

WHEREAS, so many changes have taken place in the economic, social and political viewpoint as to the functions of government; and

WHEREAS, numerous amendments have been made to our existing Constitution, which have left many of its provisions inconsistent and contradictory; and

WHEREAS, it would seem desirable that the question of proper constitutional revision be considered by persons especially elected for this purpose instead of continuing the present system of sporadic and patchwork amendments, without due consideration as to other provisions of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, now would seem to be an opportune time to give consideration to this subject, as the procedure will require considerable time; and

WHEREAS, if it is decided to call a Constitutional Convention, the members of said Convention would probably be elected at the November election, 1948, and would have sufficient time to study and consider a proper Constitution in time to have it submitted to the voters at the November election, 1950, which would give ample opportunity to consider changes which are desirable, in view of changing economic and political conditions; therefore be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Governor be and he is hereby requested to appoint a*