

# CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND

ADOPTED ON THE TENTH DAY OF JANUARY, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT, BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF MARYLAND WHICH ASSEMBLED AT THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS ON THE TWELFTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN, AND ADJOURNED ON THE TENTH DAY OF JANUARY, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT.

## PREAMBLE

*We, the people of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious freedom, recognizing that all political power originates in the people and that all government is instituted to secure their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and acknowledging our duty and responsibility to posterity, do establish and ordain this Constitution.*

## ARTICLE I. DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

### Section 1.01. **Freedom of Expression.**

The people shall have the right peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Freedom of the press and freedom of speech shall not be abridged, each person remaining responsible for abuse of those rights.

### Section 1.02. **Freedom of Religion.**

No law shall be made respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

### Section 1.03. **Due Process and Equal Protection.**

No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor be denied the equal protection of the laws, nor be subject to discrimination by the State because of race, color, religion, or national origin.