

CHAPTER 196

(Senate Bill 20)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 19(c), (f) and (i) of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1956 Supplement), title "Corporations—Municipal", sub-title "Home Rule", sub-heading "Annexation", providing that the voters in certain procedures for annexation by municipalities shall be registered to vote in county elections within the precinct or precincts in which the territory to be annexed is located.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 19(c), (f) and (i) of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1956 Supplement), title "Corporations—Municipal", sub-title "Home Rule", sub-heading "Annexation", be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, to read as follows:

19.

(c) Initiation by Petition.—The proposal for change also may be initiated by a written petition signed by not less than twenty-five per centum (25%) of the persons who reside in the area to be annexed and who are registered as voters in county elections *in the precinct or precincts in which the territory to be annexed is located*, and by the owners of not less than twenty-five per centum (25%) of the assessed valuation of the real property located in the area to be annexed. Upon the presentation of a petition to the legislative body of the municipal corporation, the presiding officer thereof shall cause to be made a verification of the signatures thereon and shall ascertain that the persons signing the petition represent at least twenty-five per centum (25%) of the persons who reside in the area to be annexed and who are registered as voters in county elections *in the precinct or precincts in which the territory to be annexed is located*, and the owners of twenty-five per centum (25%) of the assessed valuation of the real property located in the area to be annexed. Upon verifying that the requirements of this subsection have been complied with, the presiding officer of the legislative body shall promptly cause to be introduced therein a resolution proposing the change of boundaries as requested by the petition. The resolution in form and content shall conform to the requirements of this section.

(f) Petition for referendum by residents of area to be annexed.—At any time within the forty-five (45) day period following the final enactment of the resolution, a number of persons equal to not less than twenty per centum (20%) of the persons who reside in the area to be annexed and who are registered as voters in county elections *in the precinct or precincts in which the territory to be annexed is located* may, in writing, petition the chief executive and administrative officer of the municipal corporation for a referendum on the resolution. Upon the presentation of a petition to the officer, he shall cause to be made a verification of the signatures thereon and shall

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.