

COMPARISON OF CONSTITUTIONS

CONSTITUTION OF 1867

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1968

Sec. 1A. The General Assembly of Maryland shall have power to provide by suitable enactment for voting by qualified voters of the State of Maryland who are absent at the time of any election from the ward or election district in which they are entitled to vote and for voting by other qualified voters who are unable to vote personally by reason of physical disability which shall confine said voters to a hospital or cause them to be confined to bed, and for the manner in which and the time and place at which such absent voters may vote, and for the canvass and return of their votes.

Sec. 2. No person above the age of twenty-one years, convicted of larceny, or other infamous crime, unless pardoned by the Governor, shall ever thereafter be entitled to vote at any election in this State; and no person under guardianship, as a lunatic, or, as a person *non compos mentis*, shall be entitled to vote.

Section 2.03. Voters in Municipal Elections.

A municipal corporation may prescribe by law qualifications for voters in its municipal elections, subject to any procedures and standards that the General Assembly may prescribe by law. No municipal corporation may prescribe an age requirement of more than nineteen years or a residence requirement of more than one year.

Section 2.04. Voters in United States Enclaves.

A person shall not be deemed ineligible to vote in any election solely by reason of the fact that he resides on land over which the United States has been ceded jurisdiction.

Section 2.05. Property Qualifications.

Ownership of an interest in property shall not be required as a condition for voting except to the extent that nonresident property owners may be permitted by law to vote in a municipal election. Ownership of an interest in property shall not be required as a condition for holding any elective or appointive office of this State or of any unit of local government.

Section 2.07. Conduct of Elections.

The General Assembly by law shall define residence, establish a uniform system of permanent registration of voters, provide for the nomination of candidates, regulate the time, place, and manner of elections, provide for the uniform administration of elections, provide for absentee voting, insure secrecy of voting, and protect the integrity of the election process. A municipal corporation may prescribe by law election dates and procedures for the administration and regulation of its municipal elections, subject to any procedures and standards that the General Assembly may prescribe by law. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the supervision and uniform administration of laws enacted by the General Assembly pursuant to this section.

Section 2.06. Disqualifications.

The General Assembly may prescribe by law disqualifications from voting in any election by reason of mental incompetence or conviction of serious crime, and shall provide by law for the removal of these disqualifications.