

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF MARYLAND

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1968

ber of votes shall be elected to the offices for which they were candidates.

Referendum

Section 2.10. Referendum.

The people reserve to themselves the power of referendum. Any law enacted by the General Assembly may be petitioned to referendum except laws for legislative apportionment and districting, or congressional districting, or imposing a tax, or making an appropriation for the state government or any public institution.

Section 2.11. Manner of Referral.

A law, other than a law applicable in only one county, shall be referred to a vote of the people after a petition has been signed by a number of qualified voters equal to at least five per cent of the total votes cast for governor in the most recent gubernatorial election. Not more than one-half of the required number of signatures shall be those of qualified voters residing in any one county. If the total number of required signatures is filed with the governor within sixty days after the bill becomes law, it shall be submitted to a vote of the people at the next general election held not less than four months after the bill becomes law.

CONSTITUTION OF 1867

more candidates shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, a new election shall be ordered by the Governor, except in cases specially provided for by this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVI. THE REFERENDUM.

Section 1. (a) The people reserve to themselves power known as The Referendum, by petition to have submitted to the registered voters of the State, to approve or reject at the polls, any Act, or part of any Act of the General Assembly, if approved by the Governor, or, if passed by the General Assembly over the veto of the Governor;

Sec. 2. . . . No law making any appropriation for maintaining the State Government, or for maintaining or aiding any public institution, not exceeding the next previous appropriation for the same purpose, shall be subject to rejection or repeal under this Section. The increase in any such appropriation for maintaining or aiding any public institution shall only take effect as in the case of other laws, and such increase or any part thereof specified in the petition, may be referred to a vote of the people upon petition.

Sec. 6. No law or Constitutional Amendment, licensing, regulating, prohibiting, or submitting to local option, the manufacture or sale of malt or spirituous liquors, shall be referred or repealed under any Act of the provisions of this Article.

Art. XVI, sec. 3. (a) The referendum petition against an Act or part of an Act passed by the General Assembly, shall be sufficient if signed by three per centum of the qualified voters of the State of Maryland, calculated upon the whole number of votes cast therein for Governor at the last preceding Gubernatorial election, of whom not more than half shall be residents of Baltimore City, or of any one County; . . .

(b) If more than one-half, but less than the full number of signatures required to complete any referendum petition against any law passed by the General Assembly, be filed with Secretary of State before the first day of June, the time for the law to take effect, and for filing the remainder of signatures to complete the petition shall be extended to the thirtieth day of the same month, with like effect.