

COMPARISON OF CONSTITUTIONS

CONSTITUTION OF 1867

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1968

Any bill which is vetoed by the Governor following the adjournment of the General Assembly, or any bill which fails to become a law by reason of not having been signed by the Governor following the adjournment of the General Assembly, shall be returned to the House in which it originated, immediately after said House shall have organized at the next regular or special session of the General Assembly. Said bill may then be reconsidered according to the procedure specified hereinabove. If the bill is passed over the veto of the Governor, it shall take effect on June 1 following, unless the bill is an emergency measure to take effect when passed. No such vetoed bill shall be returned to the Legislature when a new General Assembly of Maryland has been elected and sworn since the passage of the vetoed bill.

The Governor shall have power to disapprove of any item or items of any Bills making appropriations of money embracing distinct items, and the part or parts of the Bill approved shall be the law, and the item or items of appropriations disapproved shall be void unless repassed according to the rules or limitations prescribed for the passage of other Bills over the Executive veto.

Sec. 18. It shall be the duty of the Governor, semi-annually (and oftener, if he deem it expedient) to examine under oath the Treasurer and Comptroller of the State on all matters pertaining to their respective offices; and inspect and review their Bank and other Account Books.

Sec. 19. He shall, from time to time, inform the Legislature of the conditions of the State and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may judge necessary and expedient.

Sec. 20. He shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, except in cases of impeachment, and in cases, in which he is prohibited by other Articles of this Constitution; and to remit fines and forfeitures for offences against the State; but shall not remit the principal or interest of any debt due the State, except in cases of fines and forfeitures; and before granting a *nolle prosequi*, or pardon, he shall give notice, in one or more newspapers, of the application made for it, and of the day on, or after which, his decision will be

unless another effective date after passage is established by joint resolution of the General Assembly.

Section 4.14. Item Veto.

The governor may reduce or strike out any item in a supplementary appropriation bill. Each item or portion of an item not disapproved shall become law, and each item or portion of an item disapproved shall be subject to the same procedure as a bill vetoed by the governor.

Section 4.33. Information from Administrative Officers.

The governor at any time may require information, in writing or otherwise, from any officer of any department, office, agency, or instrumentality in the executive branch.

Section 4.12. Messages to General Assembly.

The governor from time to time shall inform the General Assembly of the conditions of the State and recommend such measures as he considers necessary or desirable.

Section 4.34. Executive Clemency.

The governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, except in cases of conviction upon impeachment, and to remit fines and forfeitures for offenses against the State. At least annually he shall file with the Court of Appeals a public report of the instances of the exercise of this power.