

amendments to that of the majority, was defeated on January 20 by a vote of 20 in favor to 50 opposed. After long and excited debate and continued negotiation with the Senate, the House finally, on February 3, passed the bill on its third reading by a vote of 43 to 17.

The Senate early appointed a committee to confer with a like one from the House on the subject of the recommendation for a Convention contained in the Governor's message. A joint bill was reported on January 18, and considered by the Senate at various times, till finally the bill passed by the House was received. Numerous propositions went back and forth between the two Houses till finally, at the suggestion of the House of Delegates, a conference committee was appointed on the morning of February 8. The differences were at once adjusted, and the committee report sent in that evening was immediately adopted by the Senate by the vote of 14 to 2. The House received the report on the next day, and adopted it, yeas 43, nays 15, accepting the minor Senate provisions as to delegates, etc.

The Convention Bill, as finally passed, contained the following provisions: A vote was to be taken on the first Wednesday of April (6th) at the usual places and in the legal manner on the question of holding a Convention. At the same time, delegates to this Convention were to be elected, the qualifications being the same as those necessary for a seat in the House of Delegates, and the number the same as the total representation in both Houses of the Legislature. In making returns of votes, the judges of election were to certify, under oath, whether there was military interference (except on demand of the civil authorities), in case of which the Governor was to order one or more new elections in the districts affected till that interference was discontinued. An oath of allegiance was required of all voters challenged on the ground of disloyalty. If the vote at the election was favorable to a Convention, the Governor was to issue a proclamation, calling it to meet in Annapolis