

in this State; establishing the procedure for becoming a code county; defining the powers of these counties and of the General Assembly for enacting, amending, or repealing certain public local laws; relating generally to powers of home rule for the counties here defined as "code counties"; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for adoption or rejection.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That Article 11F be and it is hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland, title "Home Rule for Code Counties," to follow immediately after Article 11E thereof, the same if adopted by the legal and qualified voters of the State as herein provided to become a part of the Constitution of Maryland.*

Article 11F

Home Rule for Code Counties

Section 1. For the purposes of this Article, (1) "code county" means a county which is not a charter county under Article 11A of this Constitution and has adopted the optional powers of home rule provided under this Article; and (2) "public local law" means a law applicable to the incorporation, organization, or government of a code county and contained in the county's code of public local laws; but this latter term specifically does not include (i) the charters of municipal corporations under Article 11E of this Constitution, (ii) the laws or charters of counties under Article 11A of this Constitution, (iii) laws, whether or not Statewide in application, in the code of public general laws, (iv) laws which apply to more than one county, and (v) ordinances and resolutions of the county government enacted under public local laws.

Section 2. The governing body of any county, BY A VOTE OF AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS ELECTED THERETO, may propose by resolution that the county become a code county and be governed by the provisions of this Article. Upon the adoption of such a resolution, it shall be certified to the Board of Supervisors of Elections in the county, which Board (pursuant to the election laws of the State) shall submit to the voters of the county at the next ensuing general election the question whether the resolution shall be approved or rejected. If in the referendum a majority of those persons voting on this question vote for the resolution, the resolution is approved, and the county shall become a code county under the provisions of this Article, on the thirtieth day after the election. If in the referendum a majority of those persons voting on this question vote against the resolution, the resolution is rejected, and of no further effect.

PROVIDED THAT IF AT THE NEXT ENSUING GENERAL ELECTION THERE ~~ALREADY IS SCHEDULED~~ TO SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS OF THE COUNTY A PROPOSED CHARTER UNDER ARTICLE 11A OF THIS CONSTITUTION, THE PROPOSED CHARTER ONLY SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THAT NEXT ENSUING GENERAL ELECTION. IF THE PROPOSED CHARTER IS ADOPTED BY THE VOTERS, THIS PARTICULAR RESOLUTION TO BECOME A CODE COUNTY SHALL NOT BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS