

WHEREAS, Any Constitution is a complex document which ultimately relies on the courts in many cases for interpretation as to the meaning of its various provisions; and

WHEREAS, Any comments made by individuals in public life at this time regarding the proposed draft are unfortunately stigmatized as being either "pro" or "con"; and

WHEREAS, One effective method of stimulating knowledge and interest would be by use of the process of objective debate by individuals who by reason of their background and training can dispassionately discuss both the strength and weakness of various sections of the proposed draft, with no particular bias involved either for or against the proposed draft; and

WHEREAS, Among individuals to be considered for this purpose would be experts in the various fields of government involved, who have had no previous involvement with either the Constitutional Commission or Convention; and

WHEREAS, Use of this method will draw and stimulate interest and dispense information, by its very process, as people are always attracted by such debates; and

WHEREAS, The various news media in the State, newspapers, television and radio have tremendous power to influence thinking on the part of the people, and may possibly have some bias one way or the other in their treatment of the draft under consideration, and can render a great service to the State by avoiding any such bias; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Continuing Committee on the Constitutional Convention be requested to consider using a series of debates on the proposed Constitution; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the participants in the debates be experts in the various fields of government involved, within and without the State; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the various news media be asked to become involved to the extent that sufficient time be provided on television and radio for the debates, and the newspapers to carry the debates verbatim, without any reportorial or editorial comment, so that a completely objective discussion of the proposed Constitution can be had, and the people of Maryland can reach an informed, dispassionate conclusion as to how they will vote on May 14, 1968; and be it further*

*Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be sent to President H. Vernon Eney, members of the Constitutional Convention, and the various news media in the State, and the Continuing Committee on the Constitutional Convention.*

Approved May 7, 1968.