

in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the sections repealed, providing that any paper forming part of a petition contain the names of voters in only one county or in only Baltimore City, that each paper be submitted for verification in advance to the Board of Supervisors of Elections in the county in which the voters on the paper are alleged to reside, that the requirements for publishing the names appearing on the nominating petitions be eliminated, and generally relating to the process of nomination by petition in the Election Code.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Sections 7-1 and 7-2 of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Supplement), title "Election Code," subtitle "Nomination by Petition," be and they are hereby repealed, that new Section 7-1 be and it is hereby enacted in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the sections repealed, all to read as follows:*

7-1.

(a) *A candidate for any public office who is neither a candidate nor a registered member of a party whose nominee must be nominated by primary election or whose nominee may be nominated by primary meeting may be nominated by petition, as in this section provided. Nothing in this subsection applies to candidates or nominations in Montgomery County for election to the county Board of Education.*

(b) *A candidate for public office seeking nomination by petition shall file a certificate of candidacy under the provisions of the subtitle "Certificate of Candidacy" of this Article with a sworn statement attached that he has on file with the election board or the several boards of the State petitions signed by not less than three per centum (3%) of the registered voters who are eligible to vote for the office for which such nomination by petition is sought. The number of registered voters shall be determined as of January 1st preceding the election for which the nomination is sought.*

(c) *The signatures shall not be appended to one paper but shall be on separate papers, bearing one or more signatures and being no more than 8½ inches in width or 14 inches in length. Such paper shall not contain the names of persons residing in more than one county or in any county and in the City of Baltimore. Each signer shall append to his signature his residence, and the name of the county or city where he is registered as a voter, and immediately below the signature of any signer there shall be either printed or typed the name of the signer. Every paper shall be accompanied by an affidavit or affidavits made before a justice of the peace, notary public, or other officer authorized to take oaths under the laws of this State, by one or more persons known personally to the justice, notary public or other officer, and so certified by him and signed by the affiants, to the effect that the signers are known to such affiant or affiants to be registered voters of the county or city as set forth in the petition, and that the affiant or affiants personally saw the signers, in regard to whom he or they make oaths, sign the paper.*

(d) *No person shall join in nominating more than one nominee for each office to be filled; nor shall any person sign more than once for the same nominee for an office.*