

tion and selection of jurors, repealing or amending certain other laws concerning the exemption from jury service of dentists, members of the organized militia, honorary members of the militia, and members of the National Guard, repealing certain other laws inconsistent with this Act, renumbering without other changes certain other acts in Article 51 of said Code and generally amending and revising the laws of this State concerning jurors, the qualification and selection of jurors, and the duties and functions of jurors.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 9, 9A, 10, 10A, 11, 12, 12A, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 25, and 26 of Article 51 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume and 1968 Supplement), title "Jurors," subtitle "Qualification and Selection of Jurors;" be and they are hereby repealed; and that new Sections 1 to 13 inclusive of said Article be and they are hereby enacted, to stand in the place of the sections so repealed and all to read as follows:*

1. Declaration of Policy

Whenever a litigant in a court of this State is entitled to trial by jury, he shall have the right to a petit jury selected at random from a fair cross section of the citizens of this State resident in the county wherein the court convenes or in Baltimore City if the court convenes therein. Whenever a person IS accused of aN INDICTABLE criminal offense is to be prosecuted under the laws of this State after indictment by grand jury, he shall have the right to a grand jury selected at random from a fair cross section of the citizens of this State resident in the county wherein the court convenes or in Baltimore City if the Court convenes therein. All citizens of this State (1) shall have the opportunity to be considered for service on grand and petit juries in the courts of this State by maintaining their names on the roll of registered voters for State elections, and (2) shall have an obligation to serve as jurors when summoned for that purpose.

2. Discrimination prohibited

No citizen shall be excluded from service as a grand or petit juror in the courts of this State on account of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or economic status.

3. Source of prospective jurors

The names of prospective jurors shall be selected solely from persons 21 years of age or over whose names appear on the voter registration lists for State elections. AND FROM SUCH ADDITIONAL SOURCES AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED IN THE PLAN ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 4. Volunteers for jury service shall be refused, and recommendations, if made, shall not be accepted.

4. Plan for random jury selection

(a) The circuit court for each county and the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City shall devise and place into operation a written plan for random selection of grand and petit jurors that shall be designed to achieve the objectives of, and be in compliance with the provisions of, this Article. The plan shall be placed into operation only after