

the election, tenure, duties, and operations of the Board, and submitting this Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of Washington County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section ~~34(b)~~ 35(B) of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 4. County Boards of Education," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments; and that new Section 36A be and it is hereby added to said article, title and subtitle of the Code, to follow immediately after Section 36 thereof, and to read as follows:*

35.

(b) The members of the boards, except in Montgomery **[County]** *and Washington Counties*, shall be appointed from the citizens of the county by the Governor for overlapping terms of five years from the first day in July next succeeding their appointment, and they shall hold office until their successors qualify. The members of the boards shall be appointed solely because of their character and fitness and without regard to political affiliation, but no person shall be appointed to a board who is in any way subject to its authority. The State Superintendent of Schools, by and with the approval of the Governor, may remove any member of a board appointed under the provisions of this section for immorality, misconduct in office, incompetency, or wilful neglect of duty, giving to him a copy of the charges against him, and an opportunity of being publicly heard in person or by counsel, in his own defense, upon not less than ten days' notice. If any member of a county board shall be so removed, the State Superintendent of Schools shall file in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for the county for which the member was appointed, if the member so requests, a complete statement of all charges made against such member, and his findings hereon, together with a complete record of the proceedings. Vacancies on any of the county boards except in Montgomery **[County]** *and Washington Counties* for any cause shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term and until a successor shall qualify. Any member of a board shall be eligible for reappointment unless otherwise disqualified by the provisions of this section; provided however:

(1) That no person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms and

(2) That an incumbent member of a county board serving a full term as of July 1, 1969, shall be eligible for one additional full term.

36A.

(A)(1) *After ~~January 1, 1973~~ JANUARY 1, 1975, the Board of Education of Washington County shall be composed of five members. The office held by incumbent members of the Board of Education of Washington County originally appointed by the Governor shall continue until January 1, ~~1973~~ 1975, and thereafter are abolished.*

(2) *The members of said board shall be elected at the general election in November, ~~1973~~ 1974. The three members who receive the highest number of votes shall hold office for terms of four years*