

of Election Laws, immediately after receiving the proclamation, shall notify the boards of the counties comprising the congressional district in which the vacancy exists of the proclamation and shall forward a copy of the proclamation to each of said boards.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if a vacancy in the office of Representative in Congress occurs during the period beginning with ~~ninety~~ SIXTY days before any regularly scheduled statewide primary election and ending at noon on the following third day of January, the Governor if he deems it in the best interests of the State may in his discretion decline to issue the proclamation provided for herein and may allow the office to remain vacant until it is filled pursuant to the regular election process.

26-18.

(a) At any time within thirty days after any regular primary or general election and within fifteen days of any special primary or special election held under the laws of this State, any defeated candidate at such election, or any ten duly qualified voters at such election, may present to the circuit court of any county, or to the Superior Court of Baltimore City, a petition setting forth under oath that prohibited practices, contrary to the provisions of a specified section or sections of this article, were committed by the successful candidate or candidates or in the person of his or their agent or agents at or preliminary to such election, within the county or city in which said petition was filed, naming the successful candidate or candidates as defendants, and praying that the fact alleged may be inquired into.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That if a special primary election and a special election are held prior to July 1, 1971, in the First Congressional District of Maryland pursuant to the provisions of this Act, the additional costs incurred by the boards of supervisors of elections in connection with the special primary election shall be paid by the Counties in the First Congressional District, and the additional costs incurred by said boards in connection with the special election shall be paid by the State with funds as appropriated by law.*

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, and having been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.*

Approved February 24, 1971.

CHAPTER 3

(House Bill 340)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 40(m) of Article 10 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Attorneys at Law and Attorneys in Fact," subtitle