

regular session. [No change in the number of members of the Senate or House of Delegates shall be provided in this plan.] The plan shall conform to Sections, 2, 3 and 4 of this Article. Following each decennial census the General Assembly shall by [law enact] joint resolution adopt a plan [for legislative districting and apportionment] setting forth the boundaries of the ~~forty-seven (47)~~ legislative districts for the election of members of the Senate and the House of Delegates, which plan shall conform to Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this Article. If a plan has been adopted by the General Assembly by the forty-fifth day after the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in the third year following the 1970 census and in the second year following every census thereafter, the plan adopted by the General Assembly shall become law. If no plan has been [enacted] adopted by the General Assembly for these purposes by the forty-fifth day after the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly [of] in the [second] third year following the 1970 census and in the second year following every census thereafter, the plan presented to the General Assembly by the Governor shall become law. Upon petition of any registered voter, the Court of Appeals shall have original jurisdiction to review the legislative districting [and apportionment] of the State and may grant appropriate relief, if it finds that the districting [and apportioning] of the State is not consistent with requirement of either the Constitution of the United States of America or the Constitution of Maryland. Upon the adoption by the qualified voters of the State in 1972 of the above amendments to this Section, any legislative districting and apportionment plan submitted by the Governor or adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of this Section as they existed immediately prior to the adoption in 1972 of the said amendments, shall be void and of no effect.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That the foregoing Sections hereby proposed as amendments to the Constitution of Maryland, at the next general election to be held in this State in November 1972, shall be submitted to the legal and qualified voters thereof for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in Article 14 of the Constitution of this State; and at this general election, the vote on this proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the Constitutional Amendments" as now provided by law, and, immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article 14 of the Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article 14.*

Approved May 6, 1971.

CHAPTER 357
(House Bill 524)

AN ACT to propose an amendment to Article 7 of the Declaration of Rights of the Constitution of Maryland, deleting archaic language describing those citizens entitled to vote, and providing for the