

(b) If such a certified statement is not filed with the petition, [the Secretary of State] THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY shall treat the petition as invalid and shall not certify the question [of the referendum to the several boards].

(c) In any proceeding to test the validity of any petition filed as specified in subsection (a) of this section, the person, persons, or association certifying the statement required in this section shall be a party to such a proceeding. Such proceeding shall be filed in the county or Baltimore City where the person, persons or association resides or maintains its principal place of business, as the case may be.

23-7.

On any petition (including an associated or included set of petitions) submitted [to the Secretary of State] under the provisions of [Article 16] ARTICLES XI-A AND XVI of the Constitution, any question concerning, or the invalidity of, the signature of any person on the petition affects that signature only and does not affect or impair any other portion of the petition or petitions.

SECTION -3-- 2 . AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the passage of this Act is contingent upon the passage of ~~H.B. 6-B~~ ~~-----~~ ~~(---1r---~~ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ (H.B. 280) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1982, a Constitutional Amendment, and its ratification by the voters of the State.

SECTION -4- 3 . AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That subject to the provisions of Section -3- 2 above, this Act shall take effect January 1, 1983.

Approved June 1, 1982.

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CHAPTER 852

(House Bill 496)

AN ACT concerning

Pensions - Retired Judges' Spouses

FOR the purpose of defining the difference between the spouse of a deceased judge and the surviving spouse of a retired former judge; providing for certain changes in the definition of certain phases phrases; and providing that to receive a pension a surviving spouse