A BILL

Entitled, an act to provide for the taking the sense of the people upon the expediency of calling a Convention, to frame a new Constitution and Form of Government for this State, and to provide for the election of Delegates to such Convention.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the people of this State, as to the expediency of calling a Convention of delegates to be elected by the people, to frame a new Constitution and Form of Government, to be submitted to a vote of the people for ratification or rejection, it is hereby recommended to the legal voters of the State, that at the election of Governor of this State, to be held on the first Wednesday, eighteen hundred and fifty, and at the same places where said election is to be held, that every person entitled to vote in the election of said Governor, shall vote with reference to the question proposed by this act, by expressing in writing or in printed form, on the ballot he may cast, the words, "For a Convention," or the words "Against a Convention," as the case may be, and in case there should be any ballots without the designation hereinbefore prescribed, the same shall not be counted either for or against a convention, but a separate return of the same shall be made by the judges of election as aforesaid.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the several judges of election of this State to receive, accurately count, and duly return to the Governor within days after the said election, the number of ballots given for or against the call of a convention, in the same manner as they return the number of ballots for the Governor of this State, and the laws regulating the returns for the said Governor, shall regulate, govern and apply to the vote recommended to be taken by the provisions of this act, and a judge or judges of the election failing to comply with the provisions of this act, shall be liable to the same penalties as he or they would be by the non-compliance with the existing laws of this State.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That as soon as the Governor shall receive the returns of the number of ballots cast in this State, for or against a convention, and if upon counting and casting up the returns as made to him by the judges of election as hereinbefore prescribed, it shall appear that a majority of the people of the State, are in favor of a call of a convention, he shall issue his proclamation ordering an election to be held in the several counties and the city of Baltimore, on the last Monday of November, eighteen