

ent Circuit Courts of this State now have and exercise, or which may hereafter be prescribed by law.

² SEC. 21. From and after January 1, 1945, there shall be at least three judges for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh circuits, to be styled judges of the Circuit Court, to be elected or appointed as herein provided. In any of said circuits in which there shall be more than three judges (including the additional judge of the Court of Appeals), no successor to the additional judge of the Court of Appeals shall be appointed or elected as judge of said circuit. In any of said circuits in which there shall be only three judges (including an additional judge of the Court of Appeals), a successor to the additional judge of the Court of Appeals shall be appointed and elected as judge of said circuit. The aforesaid number of judges for any of the circuits shall be subject to increase or decrease by law as provided in Section 5 of this Article. The senior judge in length of service shall be the chief judge of the circuit (unless there is an additional judge of the Court of Appeals); the other judge or judges shall be associate judges. No two of said judges of the Circuit Court shall at the time of their election or appointment, or during the term for which they may have been elected or appointed, reside in any one county other than Baltimore, Montgomery, Prince George's or Allegany County, and not more than two in any county except (if there is an additional judge of the Court of Appeals) Baltimore County. In case any candidate or candidates for judge at any election shall receive sufficient votes to cause such candidate or candidates to be declared elected, but the election of such candidate or candidates would cause more judges than herein permitted to reside in any county of the circuit, then and in that event there shall be declared elected only that candidate or those candidates residing in said county, in the order of the votes received, whose election would provide the permitted number of judges from said county, and also the candidate or candidates residing in some other county, and not similarly disqualified, who shall have the next highest number of votes in said election. If, by reason of such a condition or by reason of an equal vote for two or more candidates a sufficient number of judges duly qualified as to residence shall not be elected at any election, then it shall be the duty of the Governor to order a new election for such unfilled office or offices. The said judges shall hold such terms of the Cir-

² Thus amended by Ch. 772 of the Acts of 1943, and ratified at November election, 1944.