

several Election Districts of the Counties and Wards of the City of Baltimore, as are now, or may hereafter be prescribed by Law; and Justices of the Peace and Constables, so appointed, shall be subject to removal by the Judge, or Judges having criminal jurisdiction in the county, or city, for incompetency, willful neglect of duty, or misdemeanor in office, on conviction in a Court of Law. The Justices of the Peace and Constables, so appointed, and commissioned, shall be Conservators of the Peace, shall hold their office for two years, and shall have such jurisdiction, duties and compensation, subject to such right of appeal, in all cases, from the judgment of Justices of the Peace, as hath been heretofore exercised, or shall be hereafter prescribed by Law.

SEC. 43. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Justice of the Peace, the Governor shall appoint a person to serve, as Justice of the Peace, for the residue of the term; and in case of a vacancy in the office of Constable, the County Commissioners of the county in which the vacancy occurs, or the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, as the case may be, shall appoint a person to serve as Constable for the residue of the term.

Part VII—Sheriffs.

SEC. 44. There shall be elected in each county and in Baltimore City in the year 1946 and in every fourth year thereafter, one person, resident in said county, or city, above the age of twenty-five years and at least five years preceding his election, a citizen of the State, to the office of Sheriff. He shall hold office for four years, and until his successor is duly elected and qualified; shall give such bond, exercise such powers and perform such duties as now are or may hereafter be fixed by law.

In case of vacancy by death, resignation, refusal to serve, or neglect to qualify, or give bond, or by disqualification or removal from the County or City, the Governor shall appoint a person to be Sheriff for the remainder of the official term.

The Sheriff in each county and in Baltimore City shall receive such salary or compensation and such expenses necessary to the conduct of his office as may be fixed by law. All fees collected by the Sheriff shall be accounted for and paid to the Treasury of the several counties and of Baltimore City, respectively.¹

¹ Amended by Chapter 786, Acts of 1945, ratified November 5, 1946; amended by Chapter 55, Acts of 1953, ratified November 2, 1954.