

LEGISLATURE
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senate Officers

William S. James, President of the Senate
 George E. Snyder, Majority Floor Leader
 Edward T. Hall, Co-Minority Floor Leader
 Jervis S. Finney, Co-Minority Floor Leader
 Bruce N. Bereano, Assistant to the President
 Oden Bowie, Secretary
 Henry L. Harrison, Assistant Secretary
 W. Gary Gray, Journal Clerk
 Myron A. Cronhardt, Assistant Journal Clerk
 Ronald E. Council, Reading Clerk
 Mary C. Johnson, Chief Page
 R. H. McCleaf, Sergeant-at-Arms

House of Delegates Officers

John Hanson Briscoe, Speaker
 John S. Arnick, Majority Floor Leader
 C. A. Porter Hopkins, Minority Floor Leader
 James P. Mause, Chief Clerk
 Jacqueline M. Spell, Assistant Chief Clerk
 Charles H. Cox, Journal Clerk
 Janet Y. Mutscheller, Assistant Journal Clerk
 Lawrence Goldstein, Reading Clerk
 Cornelia Connelly, Page Supervisor
 John J. Nowakowski, Parliamentarian

The legislative powers of the State of Maryland are vested in the General Assembly, which consists of two distinct branches, the Senate and the House of Delegates (Const. 1867, Art. III, sec. 1). The General Assembly, until the 1974 general election, consists of 185 members: 43 Senators and 142 members of the House of Delegates, all elected by the counties and the six Legislative Districts of Baltimore City. Senators are apportioned among the several senatorial districts on an approximate population ratio. The number of Delegates for each county and each Legislative District varies from one to twenty-two (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 40).

Under the provisions of a Constitutional Amendment ratified by the voters in 1972 (Chapter 363, Acts of 1972), the membership of the General Assembly was increased to 188 members. Effective with the primary and general elections of 1974, the Senate will consist of 47 members with a House of Delegates comprising 141 members. The State must be divided into legislative districts, each of which contains one Senator and three Delegates. Each District must consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form and of equal population. Districts may be subdivided, but due regard must be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions.

Every Senator or Delegate must be a citizen of the State and a resident of it for at least three years preceding the date of his election; and the last year thereof, he must have resided in the county or the Legislative District of Baltimore City which he represents. A Senator must be at least twenty-five years of age at the time of his election, and a Delegate at least twenty-one. No member of Congress or any person holding a civil or military office under the United States Government nor any clergyman or minister is eligible for election to the