

(b) All laws referred under the provisions of this Article shall be submitted separately on the ballots to the voters of the people, but if containing more than two hundred words, the full text shall not be printed on the official ballots, but the Secretary of State shall prepare and submit a ballot title of each such measure in such form as to present the purpose of said measure concisely and intelligently. The ballot title may be distinct from the legislative title, but in any case the legislative title shall be sufficient. Upon each of the ballots, following the ballot title or text, as the case may be, of each such measure, there shall be printed the words "For the referred law" and "Against the referred law," as the case may be. The votes cast for and against any such referred law shall be returned to the Governor in the manner prescribed with respect to proposed amendments to the Constitution under Article XIV of this Constitution, and the Governor shall proclaim the result of the election, and, if it shall appear that the majority of the votes cast on any such measure were cast in favor thereof, the Governor shall by his proclamation declare the same having received a majority of the votes to have been adopted by the people of Maryland as a part of the laws of the State, to take effect thirty days after such election, and in like manner and with like effect the Governor shall proclaim the result of the local election as to any Public Local Law which shall have been submitted to the voters of any County or of the City of Baltimore.

SEC. 6.¹⁹⁹ No law, licensing, regulating, prohibiting, or submitting to local option, the manufacture or sale of malt or spirituous liquors, shall be referred or repealed under the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE XVII²⁰⁰

QUADRENNIAL ELECTIONS.

SEC. 1.²⁰¹ The purpose of this Article is to reduce the number of elections by providing that all State and county elections shall be held only in every fourth year, and at the time provided by law for holding congressional elections, and to bring the terms of appointive officers into harmony with the changes effected in the time of the beginning of the terms of elective officers. The administrative and judicial officers of the State shall construe the provisions of this Article so as to effectuate that purpose. For the purpose of this Article only the word "officers" shall be construed to include those holding positions and other places of employment in the State and county governments whose terms are fixed by law, but it shall not include any appointments made by the Board of Public Works, nor appointments by the Governor for terms of three years.

SEC. 2.²⁰² Vacant.

¹⁹⁹ Thus amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁰ Added by Chapter 227, Acts of 1922, ratified November 7, 1922.

²⁰¹ Originally Article XVII, sec. 11, transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰² Left vacant by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

SEC. 3.²⁰³ All State and county officers elected by qualified voters (except judges of the Circuit Courts, judges of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, judges of the Court of Appeals and judges of any intermediate courts of appeal) shall hold office for terms of four years, and until their successors shall qualify.

SEC. 4.²⁰⁴ The term of office of all Judges and other officers, for whose election provision is made by this Constitution, shall, except in cases otherwise expressly provided herein, commence from the time of their Election. All such officers shall qualify as soon after their election as practicable, and shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices immediately upon their qualification.

SEC. 5.²⁰⁵ All officers to be appointed by the Governor shall hold office for the terms fixed by law. All officers appointed by County Commissioners shall hold office for terms of four years, unless otherwise duly changed by law.

SEC. 6.²⁰⁶ The terms of the members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore City and of the several counties shall commence on the first Monday of June next ensuing their appointment.

SEC. 7.²⁰⁷ Sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this Article do not apply or refer to members of any elective local board of education.

SEC. 8.²⁰⁸ If at any election directed by this Constitution, any two or more candidates shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, a new election shall be ordered by the Governor, except in cases specially provided for by this Constitution.

SEC. 9.²⁰⁹ In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of this Article and any of the other provisions of the Constitution, the provisions of this Article shall prevail, and all other provisions shall be repealed or abrogated to the extent of such inconsistency.

ARTICLE XVIII.²¹⁰

PROVISIONS OF LIMITED DURATION

1. Any provision of limited duration adopted pursuant to Article XIV is set forth below. As each expires, it shall stand repealed, and no further action shall be required to remove it from the Constitution.

²⁰³ Originally Article XVII, sec. 1 (a), transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁴ Originally Article XV, sec. 9, transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁵ Originally Article XVII, sec. 4, transferred by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁶ Originally Article XVII, sec. 8, transferred by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁷ Originally Article XVII, sec. 1 (b), transferred and amended by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁸ Transferred from Article XV, sec. 4, by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²⁰⁹ Transferred from Article XVII, sec. 13, by Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.

²¹⁰ Added by Chapter 680, Acts of 1977, ratified November 7, 1978.