

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF MARYLAND

CONSTITUTION OF 1867

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1968

bility, or the succession to the office of governor or lieutenant governor, or the exercise of the powers and duties of a successor to the office of governor.

Section 4.26. Structure of the Executive Branch.

All functions, powers, and duties of the offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the executive branch shall be allocated according to major purposes among and within not more than twenty principal departments. The maximum number of principal departments may be increased by the General Assembly by law enacted by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of all members of each house. Any agency or commission which is a regulatory, quasi-judicial, or temporary agency established by law may, but need not, be allocated within a principal department.

Section 4.27. Reorganization of the Executive Branch.

The General Assembly shall prescribe by law the functions, powers, and duties of the offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the executive branch. The General Assembly from time to time by law may reallocate offices, agencies, and instrumentalities among principal departments; may increase, modify, diminish, and change their functions, powers, and duties; and may assign new functions, powers, and duties to them. The governor may make changes in the organization of the executive branch, including the establishment or abolition of offices, agencies, instrumentalities, and principal departments, and in the assignment of functions, powers, and duties among the offices, agencies, instrumentalities, and principal departments of the executive branch. Where these changes require the force of law, they shall be set forth in executive orders in statutory form and be submitted to the General Assembly within the first ten days of a regular session. An executive order shall become effective and have the force of law on the date designated in the order unless specifically disapproved, within fifty days after submission, by a resolution of disapproval concurred in by a majority vote of all members of either house of the General Assembly.

Section 4.28. Heads of Principal Departments.

The head of each principal department of the executive branch shall be a single executive unless otherwise prescribed by the General Assembly by law or by the process of ex-