

County, including Code home rule and charter forms of government, so as to determine the type of government that is best suited for Talbot County and to determine the need for changes, continuation, or abolition of existing offices, officers, and departments, and for changes required by implementation of existing law in the event of the adoption of the Constitution proposed for ratification May 14, 1968.

WHEREAS, the contemplated Constitution to be voted on for ratification on May 14 adopts inter alia home rule government and establishes that every county shall have an instrument of government in effect by January 6, 1971; and

WHEREAS, even assuming the Constitution is not ratified, it is in the best interests of the people of Talbot County that their form of government, including its functions and the role of its offices be examined to see that it is adaptable and best suited to the contemporary economy and the way of life of the people of Talbot County. On the other hand, in the event of ratification of the new Constitution, counties that have not adopted an instrument of government prior to July 1, 1970, are required to use the instrument of government as provided by the General Assembly, to become effective January 6, 1971, and the county elections held in November, 1970, shall be for officers provided for by that instrument of government, either adopted or involuntary; and

WHEREAS, In addition thereto many offices familiar to the county such as the office of sheriff, carrying out the duties of jailor and police department will be abolished as well as such familiar offices as the Orphans' Court, and Register of Wills. In order that the services of the present officers may be continued, since they will not be provided by the State, it is a prerogative to good government that all phases of the county government be thoroughly examined, investigated, and studied for the purpose of advising the Legislative Delegation of the areas of implementation needed in the event of the ratification of the Constitution and of advising the people of Talbot County of that form of government which would be in their best interests; now, therefore

*Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Delegate from Talbot County to the General Assembly, being the only resident representative therein, is requested to appoint a study committee of not more than fifteen persons, among whom he shall designate a chairman. This committee is charged with the responsibility of investigating, examining, and otherwise studying all facets of local government to make recommendations not only to the people of Talbot County in general but to the Legislative Delegation in particular and changes or recommendations in the form of government or in any of the offices or services which should be added, deleted, or in any way changed. That committee is to recommend primarily the type and form of government most suited to the needs of the people of Talbot County considering the mores, customs, and economy of that county, both in the light of the new Maryland Constitution and in the possible event of its failure. The scope and responsibility of the Committee shall be as broad as are the services of the government of Talbot County, and it shall report*