

LEGISLATURE
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senate Officers

William S. James, President of the Senate
Harry R. Hughes, Majority Floor Leader
Edward T. Hall, Minority Floor Leader
J. Waters Parrish, Secretary
Cypert O. Whitfill, Assistant Secretary
Oden Bowie, Journal Clerk
Upshur C. Stevenson, Assistant Journal Clerk
Donald S. Hurwitz, Reading Clerk
Paul G. Hartman, Chief Page
Tilghman A. Rhodes, Sergeant-at-Arms

House of Delegates Officers

Marvin Mandel, Speaker
W. Dale Hess, Majority Floor Leader
J. Glenn Beall, Jr., Minority Floor Leader
James P. Mause, Chief Clerk
Elizabeth M. Reese, Assistant Chief Clerk
Charles H. Cox, Journal Clerk
William T. Schmitz, Assistant Journal Clerk
James E. Jones, Reading Clerk
John F. Nixon, Sergeant-at-Arms
L. Edwin Carr, Chief Page

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 at the present time consists of 171 members: 29 Senators and 142 members of the House of Delegates, all elected at large by the counties and the six Legislative Districts of Baltimore City. Each county and each of the Legislative Districts of the City of Baltimore is entitled to one Senator. The number of Delegates for each county and each Legislative District varies from two to thirteen. The membership of the House of Delegates had been frozen since 1950 at the then current number, but by the terms of a statute passed in 1962 the membership was reapportioned. For the term of office ending in 1966, a temporary membership of 142 is provided, and thereafter, the membership returns to 123, guaranteeing a minimum of two members from each county and each Legislative District and apportioning the remainder of the members up to 123 on the basis of population. This statutory membership would by its terms be superseded by Constitutional apportionment (Code 1957, 1965 Supp., Art. 40).

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 General Assembly (III, 9, 10, 11). The term of each Senator and Delegate shall be for four years from the date of his election (XVII). The Governor is required to appoint to any vacancy that occurs