

**SECTION 1.** *Beit enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland* (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That the following amendments be and they are hereby proposed to Section 21 of Article 4 of the Constitution of Maryland, title "Judiciary Department", sub-title "Part III—Circuit Courts", the same, if adopted by the qualified voters of the State, to supersede and stand in the place and stead of Section 21 of Article 4 of the Constitution of Maryland:

21. From and after [January 1, 1945] *December 1, 1954*, there shall be at least three judges for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, [sixth] and seventh circuits, *and at least four judges in the sixth circuit* to be styled judges of the Circuit Court to be elected or appointed as herein provided. [In any of said circuits in which there shall be more than three judges (including an additional judge of the Court of Appeals), no successor to the additional judge of the Court of Appeals shall be appointed and elected as judge of said circuit. In any of said circuits in which there shall be only three judges (including an additional judge of the Court of Appeals), a successor to the additional judge of the Court of Appeals shall be appointed and elected as judge of said circuit.] The aforesaid number of judges for any of the circuits shall be subject to increase or decrease by *the General Assembly* [law as provided in Section 5 of this Article]. The senior judge in length of service shall be the chief judge of the circuit [(unless there is an additional judge of the Court of Appeals)]; the other judge or judges shall be associate judges. No two of said judges of the Circuit Court shall at the time of their election or appointment, or during the terms for which they may have been elected or appointed, reside in any one county other than Baltimore, Montgomery, Prince George's or Allegany County and not more than two in any county except [(if there is an additional judge of the Court of Appeals)] Baltimore County; *and except further that after December 1, 1954, there shall be not less than three judges of the Circuit Court in Montgomery County and the vacancy hereby created shall be filled as provided in Section 5 of this Article.* In case any candidate or candidates for judge at any election shall receive sufficient votes to cause such candidate or candidates to be declared elected, but the election of such candidate or candidates could cause more judges than [herein] permitted by law to reside in any county of the circuit then and in that event there shall be declared elected only that candidate or those candidates residing in said county, in the order of the votes received, whose