

Declaration of Rights

Article 23.

In the trial of all criminal cases, the Jury shall be the Judges of Law, as well as of fact, except that the Court may pass upon the sufficiency of the evidence to sustain a conviction.

The right of trial by Jury of all issues of fact in civil proceedings in the several Courts of Law ~~SHALL BE INVIOABLY PRESERVED~~ in this State, where the amount in controversy exceeds the sum of five ~~thousand~~ [hundred] THOUSAND dollars, shall be inviolably preserved.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly determines that the amendment to the Constitution of Maryland proposed by this Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, Section 1 of the Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in November, 1992 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.

Chaptered May 5, 1992.

CHAPTER 207

(House Bill 80)

AN ACT concerning

Charter Home Rule

FOR the purpose of amending provisions of the Constitution of Maryland ~~relating to charter home rule; increasing to increase~~ the time that a charter board has to prepare a charter; ~~altering the period in which a proposed charter shall be prepared by a charter board; altering the effective date of a charter following adoption; altering certain publication requirements; altering the petition requirement to require the appointment of a charter board; specifying the number of members comprising a charter board; altering the time that the county commissioners have to appoint the charter board; altering the signatures needed to petition for an election on the charter board's membership; altering a certain election requirement; making~~