

WHEREAS, The legislative and councilmanic districts of Baltimore City, which are practically identical, have become badly out of date and entirely disproportionate in size; and

WHEREAS, By reason of great shifts of population within Baltimore City since the boundaries of the legislative and councilmanic districts were last defined more than thirty years ago, the disparity in population now means that some districts are relatively over-represented while other districts are just as seriously under-represented; and

WHEREAS, The implications of the democratic process and of representative government require that the ratios between electorate and elected legislative officials should be approximately equal from district to district in the City of Baltimore; and

WHEREAS, It is highly desirable that the legislative and councilmanic districts be redefined in the light of changed conditions and that they be made identical with each other in order to avoid confusion and uncertainty in the public mind; now therefore be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a special commission be created to study the present boundaries of the legislative and councilmanic districts in the City of Baltimore and to recommend such changes and modifications as would be necessary to make the said districts of the City of approximately equal population; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this special commission be established with the following membership: two persons, residents of the City of Baltimore, to be appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore City; two persons, residents of the City of Baltimore, to be appointed by the Governor of Maryland; one person, a member of the Baltimore City Delegation in the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates of Maryland; one person, a member of the City Senators in the Senate of Maryland, to be appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland; and one person, a member of the City Council of Baltimore, to be appointed by the President of the City Council of Baltimore; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the said commission be requested to meet and organize promptly after appointment and to elect its own chairman and establish its own procedure for completing its work; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the members of the special commission be requested to give wide consultation with civic groups, associations of commerce and any other interested groups, organizations or persons as part of its effort to establish new boundary lines among the legislative and councilmanic districts which will adequately and clearly reflect the present population of Baltimore City; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the special commission be requested to report the results of its findings, together with its recommendations for proposed new boundaries, to the legislative and councilmanic districts of Baltimore City on or before July 1, 1956, making such report to