

SENATE BILL 201

G1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

8lr1894

By: ~~Senator Dyson~~ **Senators Dyson, Conway, Colburn, Harrington, Lenett, Pinsky, Raskin, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2008

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2008

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Elective Franchise - Voting by 17-Year-Old Citizens**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain citizens who are less than 18 years old to vote
4 in certain elections under certain circumstances; making stylistic changes; and
5 submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for
6 their adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution

8 Article I - Elective Franchise

9 Section 1

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses
12 concurring), That it be proposed that the Maryland Constitution read as follows:

13 **Article I - Elective Franchise**

14 1.

15 All elections shall be by ballot. Every citizen of the United States, [of the age of
16 18 years or upwards] **WHO IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD OR WILL BE 18 YEARS OLD**
17 **ON OR BEFORE THE DAY OF THE NEXT SUCCEEDING GENERAL OR SPECIAL**
18 **ELECTION**, who is a resident of the State as of the time for the closing of registration
19 next preceding the election, shall be entitled to vote in the ward or election district in

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 which [he] **THE CITIZEN** resides at all elections to be held in this State. A person once
2 entitled to vote in any election district, shall be entitled to vote there until [he] **THE**
3 **PERSON** shall have acquired a residence in another election district or ward in this
4 State.

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

10 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
11 proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the
12 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in
13 November, 2008 for their adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the
14 Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment
15 to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the
16 words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and "Against the Constitutional
17 Amendment," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall
18 be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as
19 directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in
20 accordance with Article XIV.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.