

SENATE BILL 433

P1

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

0lr0902

By: **Senators Sydnor, Beidle, Rosapepe, West, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Legislative Department – Eligibility to Serve as Senators and Delegates – Place**
3 **of Abode**

4 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to establish
5 that a person is eligible to serve as a Senator or Delegate if the person has
6 maintained a place of abode for a certain period under certain circumstances in the
7 district that the person has been chosen to represent; making stylistic changes; and
8 submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or
9 rejection.

10 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
11 Article III – Legislative Department
12 Section 9

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

16 **Article III – Legislative Department**

17 9.

18 A person is eligible to serve as a Senator or Delegate, who on the date of [his] **THE**
19 **PERSON’S** election, (1) is a citizen of the State of Maryland, (2) has resided therein for at
20 least one year next preceding that date, and (3) if the district [which he] **THAT THE**
21 **PERSON** has been chosen to represent has been established for at least six months prior to
22 the date of [his] **THE PERSON’S** election, has resided **AND MAINTAINED A PLACE OF**
23 **ABODE** in that district for six months next preceding that date.

24 If the district [which] **THAT** the person has been chosen to represent has been

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 established less than six months prior to the date of [his] **THE PERSON'S** election, then in
2 addition to (1) and (2) above, [he] **THE PERSON** shall have resided **AND MAINTAINED A**
3 **PLACE OF ABODE** in the district for as long as it has been established.

4 A person is eligible to serve as a Senator, if [he] **THE PERSON** has attained the age
5 of twenty-five years, or as a Delegate, if [he] **THE PERSON** has attained the age of
6 twenty-one years, on the date of [his] **THE PERSON'S** election.

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

11 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That the amendment to the
12 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
13 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2020 for adoption or
14 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
15 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
16 ballot there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendment" and "Against
17 the Constitutional Amendment", as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
18 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
19 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
20 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.