

HOUSE BILL 410

G1
HB 1460/20 – HRU

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
(PRE-FILED)

1lr1192

By: **Delegate Malone**

Requested: October 28, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Congressional Districts – Standards**
3 **(Anti-Gerrymandering of Maryland’s Congressional Districts)**

4 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to require
5 congressional districts to conform to certain standards, to prohibit the accounting for
6 certain information relating to the voting history and party affiliation of certain
7 individuals, and to require that due regard be given to certain boundaries; and
8 submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or
9 rejection.

10 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
11 New Article XX – Congressional Districts
12 Section 1

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 XX – CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS**

17 **1.**

18 **(A) EACH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

19 **(1) SHALL CONSIST OF ADJOINING TERRITORY, BE COMPACT IN**
20 **FORM, AND BE OF SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL POPULATION; AND**

21 **(2) MAY NOT ACCOUNT FOR HOW INDIVIDUALS ARE REGISTERED TO**
22 **VOTE, HOW INDIVIDUALS VOTED IN THE PAST, OR THE POLITICAL PARTY TO WHICH**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 INDIVIDUALS BELONG.

2 (B) DUE REGARD SHALL BE GIVEN TO NATURAL BOUNDARIES AND THE
3 BOUNDARIES OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.

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

8 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
9 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified
10 voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2022 for adoption or
11 rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election,
12 the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each
13 ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against
14 the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election,
15 all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
16 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
17 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.