

Transcription of Maryland Constitution

1. "That the legislature consist of two distinct branches, a senate, and a house of delegates, which shall be styled the General Assembly of Maryland.

2. "That the house of delegates shall be chosen in the following manner: All freemen, residents of this state, above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote, or having property in this state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, shall have a right of suffrage in the election of delegates for such county; and ail freemen so qualified shall, on the first Monday of October, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in year thereafter, assemble in the counties in which they are respectively qualified to vote, at the court houses in the said counties, or at such other place as the legislature shall direct; and when assembled, or the major part of such of them as do assemble, shall elect, viva voce, four delegates for each county, of the most wise, sensible, and discreet of the people, residents in the county for which they are to be chosen one whole year next preceding the time of election, above twenty-one years of age, and having in the state real and personal property above the value of five hundred pounds current money.

26. "That the senators and delegates, on the second Tuesday of November, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and annually on the second Tuesday of November, forever thereafter, elect by joint ballot in the same manner as senators are directed to be chosen, five of the most sensible, discreet and experienced men, above twenty-five years of age, residents in the state above three years next preceding the election, and having therein a freehold in lands and tenements, above the value of one thousand pounds current money, to be the council to the governor, whose proceedings shall be always entered on record, to any part whereof any member may enter his dissent, and their advice, if so required by the governor, or any member of the council, shall be given in writing, and signed by the members giving the same respectively; which proceedings of the council shall be laid before the senate, or house of delegates, when called for by them, or either of them.

30. " That no person unless above twenty-five years of age, a resident in this state above five years next preceding the election, and having in the state real and personal property above the value pf five thousand pounds current money, one thousand pounds, whereof at least to be of freehold estate, shall be eligible as governor.

<http://www.mdarchives.state.md.us/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2900/sc2908/000001/000078/html/am78--322.html>