

said Convention, whose qualifications shall be the same as those now required for a seat in the house of delegates; and each county and the city of Baltimore shall be entitled to elect the same number of delegates to the said Convention as they now have respectively in both houses of the general assembly of Maryland; and it shall be the duties of the sheriffs of the several counties and the city of Baltimore to give notice of said election in the same manner and for the same length of time as is now required in the election of delegates to the general assembly of this State, and that the several judges of election of this State shall receive, accurately count, and duly return the number of ballots so cast to the several clerks of the circuit courts of this State and to the clerk of the superior court of Baltimore city respectively, who shall, within ten days after said election make a due return to the Governor of the number of ballots cast for and against the call of a Convention, and of the number of blank ballots cast, and also of the number of ballots cast for the several persons voted for as delegates to said Convention; and in case any organized military or armed force of the United States shall appear at the places where the polls shall be held, and shall interfere with said election, unless such military or armed force shall be called out by the judges of election or other civil authority charged with the preservation of the peace, the said judges of election shall, under oath, certify to the Governor such unwarranted military interference with said election in such election district or precinct, and the Governor shall immediately thereupon order a new election for delegates to said Convention, after ten days' notice, to be given to the sheriff as aforesaid, in such election district or precinct, and such new election shall be held and conducted in the manner and form hereinbefore provided; and the Governor shall order a new election for delegates from time to time, as often as such illegal military or armed interference with the election shall be certified to him as aforesaid; but such order or orders for such new election or elections shall not interfere with, hinder or delay the assembling of said Convention as herein provided, if it shall appear from the count that a majority of all the votes cast in the election districts and precincts, where no such illegal military or armed interference shall be certified to have taken place, are in favor of the call of such Convention under this act; the said judges in the said return shall certify that no organized military or other armed force had appeared at the place where the polls had been held and interfered with said election, unless such military force shall be called for by the said judges of election, or other civil authority charged with the preservation of the peace; and in case of such military interference within any election district of the counties, or

precinct in the city of Baltimore, to be certified by the judges of election under oath, it shall be the duty of the Governor to order a new election, after ten days' notice, in said election district or precinct, but such return and order of a new election shall not interfere with the assembling of the Convention as hereinbefore provided; and provided, however, that at least sixty-five members shall be elected according to the provisions of this act, before said Convention shall organize; and provided, further, that fifty members at least shall be necessary to constitute a quorum after organization; and the judges of election shall at said election administer the oath or affirmation to every person offering to vote, whose vote shall be challenged on the ground that such person has served in the rebel army, or has either directly or indirectly given aid, comfort or encouragement to those in armed rebellion against the Government of the United States, or is for any other reason not a legal voter in the manner and form provided by section twenty-one, of article thirty-five, of the code of public general law, relating to elections; and a judge or judges of election, failing to comply with the provisions of this act, shall be liable to the same penalties as he or they would be by the non-compliance with the existing election laws of this State.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That as soon as the Governor shall receive the return of the number of ballots cast in this State for or against a Convention, and the blank ballots cast, it shall be the duty of the Governor to count and cast up the same, and if, upon casting up and counting said returns so as aforesaid made to him, it shall appear to the Governor that more votes have been cast by the legal voters of the State in favor of the call of a Convention than have been cast against the call of a Convention, then it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue his proclamation for the holding and assembling of said Convention, and of the delegates duly elected thereto, at the time and place herein-after specified.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That in case of a majority of the ballots cast shall be in favor of the call of a Convention as aforesaid, then the said Convention shall meet at the city of Annapolis, on the last Wednesday of April, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and shall continue in session from day to day until the business for which said Convention shall have been assembled shall be fully completed and finished, and said Convention shall have full power and authority to determine on the validity of the election and qualification of its members; and the compensation of the delegates to said Convention shall be five dollars per day, and the mileage allowed to the members of the general assembly of the State; and the said Convention shall have power to appoint such