

I think another valid objection is that it seems to me it puts the General Assembly in the position of obstructing acts that local subdivisions have sought in their wisdom to make effective immediately. I suggest this could be tampered with and therefore it puts the General Assembly in the catbird's seat. Unless the second sentence were struck, I would have to oppose it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in favor? Delegate Macdonald?

DELEGATE MACDONALD: I rise, Mr. Chairman, in opposition to the proposed amendment. I am not sure what the first sentence means. If this were to be a statewide compilation of local laws, it would be a monstrosity, but if it means simply that the General Assembly shall provide a system whereby these localities shall compile their local laws, then I submit that it runs counter to the principle of home rule which this Convention has already adopted.

But that is not all. The second sentence in effect says that these codes, these local codes if they are to be local, shall be conclusive evidence of the law. That is a very unusual provision. The Maryland Code is not conclusive evidence of the law. It is simply prima facie evidence of the law, and I am opposed to this amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Marion?

DELEGATE MARION: I wonder if I might address a brief question about the amendment to Delegate Grant?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Grant, do you desire to take the floor?

DELEGATE GRANT: I yield.

THE CHAIRMAN: Having the floor do you yield it?

DELEGATE GRANT: I do.

DELEGATE MARION: I wonder if because of the problems which might be posed by the second sentence of your amendment, if you would consider modifying your amendment by striking the last sentence?

DELEGATE GRANT: I would do so reluctantly, but if this were the consensus of this body, I would agree to go ahead and strike it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you modify your amendment?

DELEGATE GRANT: I do so modify it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Grant modifies his amendment by striking the last

sentence beginning with the word "unless" in line 12.

The amendment is so modified.

Delegate Gallagher, do you desire to make any further comment?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman, I think the amendment will remove part of the objection, but I still believe that everything that the amendment would accomplish is in the process of being accomplished already by the General Assembly and would really be meaningless.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 26 to Committee Recommendation LB-2.

A vote of Aye is in favor of Amendment No. 26. A vote of No is a vote against. Cast your votes.

Has every delegate voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 48 votes in the affirmative and 63 in the negative, the motion is lost. The amendment is rejected.

Will Delegate Gallagher please come to the rostrum for a moment?

The pages will please distribute the Amendment AM.

Delegate Gallagher, the Chair understands that you now desire to withdraw Amendment No. 22?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman, I do desire to withdraw Amendment No. 22, and at this time I offer the amendment marked AM which is No. 27.

THE CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 22 which was passed over earlier is now withdrawn.

Amendment No. 27. The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 27 to Committee Recommendation LB-2 by Delegate Gallagher:

On page 4, Section 3.16, Consideration of Bills, in line 30 after the period strike out