

A HISTORY OF THE 1974 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly met in regular session on January 9, 1974 and adjourned on April 8, 1974.

A total of 2,890 bills was introduced, of which 1,102 were Senate bills and 1,788 were House bills. Of the 1,102 Senate bills, 362 were passed by both Houses; of this latter number, 340 were signed by the Governor and 22 were vetoed. Of the 1,788 House bills introduced, 599 were passed by both Houses, and of this latter number, 550 were signed by the Governor and 49 were vetoed.

Joint Resolutions introduced totaled 188, with 67 in the Senate and 121 in the House. Of these, 24 Senate and 31 House Joint Resolutions were passed by both Houses. Twenty-two Senate and 28 House Joint Resolutions were signed by the Governor.

The budget bill enacted at this session for fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, amounted to \$2,805,161,078. The General Construction Loan bill passed was for a total of \$92,202,100.

Among the more important laws enacted were: A bill providing for rent control for one year, a bill to increase the legal rate of interest on certain mortgage loans, a Circuit Breaker bill to provide property tax relief for qualified homeowners and renters and a bill to allow tax credits for disabled persons under Federal Retirement Systems, a bill to create the State Documents Law, a bill which created the Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation, a bill to create a Fair Campaign Financing Commission, a bill to license automotive repair facilities and two bills adding new Articles to the Code: the Real Property Article and the Estates and Trusts Article.

Several proposals were made to amend the Constitution of Maryland. Among them was a proposal to clarify eligibility provisions for election to the General Assembly, and another pertaining to absentee voting eligibility.

A HISTORY OF THE 1975 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly met in regular session on January 8, 1975 and adjourned on April 7, 1975.

A total of 2,868 bills was introduced, of which 1,160 were Senate bills and 1,708 were House bills. Of the 1,160 Senate bills, 392 were passed by both Houses; of this latter number, 361 were signed by the Governor and 31 were vetoed. Of the 1,708 House bills introduced, 595 were passed by both Houses, and of this latter number, 537 were signed by the Governor and 58 were vetoed.

Joint Resolutions introduced totaled 182, with 69 in the Senate and 113 in the House. Of these, 29 Senate and 54 House Joint Resolutions were passed by both Houses. Twenty-six Senate and 50 House Joint Resolutions were signed by the Governor.

The budget bill enacted at this session for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, amounted to \$3,169,340,894. The General Construction Loan bill passed was for a total of \$114,051,723.

Among the more important laws enacted were: A bill to require public display of prescription drug prices, a bill to require pharmacists to indicate the expiration date and proper storage of drugs, a bill to require that buyers be notified of credit balances, a bill to prohibit discriminatory credit practices (Equal Credit Opportunity Act), a bill to change the name of the Department of Employment and Social Services to Human Resources, a bill to create the Office on Aging, a bill to provide a State-wide system of smoke detection systems, a bill establishing capital punishment for certain crimes, a bill to enact the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, and two bills adding new Articles to the Code: the Commercial Law Article and the Corporations and Associations Article.

Several proposals were made to amend the Constitution of Maryland. Among them was a proposal relating to the selection and tenure of appellate judges, and another providing for succession to the office of State Treasurer.