

more City auctioneers are thus enabled to take out county licenses, and conduct their business in the counties where they are so licensed, as well as in Baltimore City.

As already stated, however, county auctioneers are not permitted to take out Baltimore City licenses, and the purpose of House Bill 525 is to protect Baltimore County auctioneers against competition in that county from Baltimore City auctioneers. The bill undertakes to do this by providing that no person shall be licensed as an auctioneer in Baltimore County except a resident of Baltimore County.

It does not seem to me that the right of a person to conduct a business anywhere in the State, which is not subject to the police power, should depend on his place of residence in the State. In other words, I do not think that either a county or a city should discriminate against a person's right to carry on such business within its limits solely on the ground that he lives somewhere else within the State. *State vs. Mercer*, 132 Md. 263; *Havre de Grace vs. Johnson*, 143 Md. 601.

If this is a sound principle, then, of course, the Baltimore City discrimination against non-resident auctioneers violates it, in the same way that the Baltimore County discrimination against non-residents under House Bill 525 would violate it.

I do not think, however, that this justifies the approval of the Baltimore County Bill. It does mean that the discrimination in the Baltimore City law ought to be removed, and assuming the existing interpretation of the Baltimore City law on this point to be correct, then this could not be done until the next Legislature meets. The Baltimore City law, however, has been construed this way for thirteen years, and I think it better to wait two years more until the next Legislature can be appealed to, rather than make a second unsound discrimination of exactly the same kind in another political unit.

For these reasons, this bill will be vetoed.

BETTING BILL FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

(Chapter 521, House Bill 311.)

The effect of this bill is to make applicable to Washington County Section 247 of Article 27 of the Code, making betting unlawful.

Since the adjournment of the Legislature the Senator from Washington County, and a number of representative