

BINGO

May 7, 1951

Hon. John C. Luber
 Speaker of the House of Delegates
 State House
 Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House Bill 738 amends the provision of the Criminal Article of the Code relating to the playing of bingo so as to exclude from the definition of "any permanent place of amusement or entertainment," outdoor amusement parks or other areas of not less than five acres. This would not only permit the playing of bingo in established amusement parks, but also in an area used for no other purpose except the playing of bingo, if the site met the rather loose requirement of containing at least five acres of ground.

This would seem to be an unnecessary broadening of the law by assuring commercial connection with the conduct of bingo. Prior experience of Baltimore City clearly demonstrates that such authorizations are not in the best interests of the general public.

Therefore, I am returning House Bill 738 without my approval.

Respectfully,

THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,
 Governor

TRMcK/o'c

CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE

May 7, 1951

Hon. John C. Luber
 Speaker of the House of Delegates
 State House
 Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House Bill No. 128 adds a new article to the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement) under the title "Claims Against the State," to provide a procedure for enforcement of such claims. The act is modeled in a large degree after the Federal tort claims act. Investigation reveals no real necessity for the unduly cumbersome machinery of the act in this State. Liability insurance coverage is provided for all motor vehicles of the State and its agencies, and these policies carry a specific exclusion against the defense of sovereign immunity. The situation in the State is therefore unlike that formerly