

employees of a State or a political subdivision thereof must be made by the State. Senate Bill No. 193 would authorize such agreements by the County Commissioners of Howard County and would not conform to the requirements of the Federal Act.

There is pending at the present time Senate Bill No. 236, which authorized on a State-wide basis agreements by the State with the Federal Security Administrator to supply Social Security coverage to employees of the State or any political subdivision thereof eligible for such coverage. This Bill would accomplish for Howard County, in a manner consistent with the Social Security Act Amendments of 1950, what Senate Bill No. 193 improperly attempts to accomplish. In connection with Senate Bill No. 236, I have had one of my Assistants meet with the Regional Representative of the Federal Security Administrator and his legal staff in order to discuss the Bill and any changes which might be deemed necessary therein. As a result of the conference, some amendments to Senate Bill No. 236 have been prepared, which I have already transmitted to the Chairman of the Banking, Insurance and Social Security Committee of the Senate where the Bill presently stands. These amendments will permit overall agreements by the Board of Public Works with the Federal Security Administrator to provide Social Security coverage to the employees of any political subdivision, and also permit agreements between the Board of Public Works and the political subdivision desiring to afford Social Security coverage to its employees to provide a method of making payments to the State of contributions to be made to the Federal Government and expenses of the State, so that the Board of Public Works will act as a conduit in compliance with Federal law, without any cost to the State. I am informed that during the course of this conference, Senate Bill No. 193 was also discussed and the Regional Representative of the Federal Security Administrator stated flatly that the Administrator would not act under its terms to enter into an Agreement with the County Commissioners of Howard County because the Bill did not comply with Federal law."

Accordingly, because Senate Bill No. 193 does not conform to applicable provisions of Federal law and for the additional reason that Senate Bill No. 236 will accomplish for Howard County and other jurisdictions what is improperly attempted to be accomplished in Senate Bill No. 193, the Attorney General has recommended and I agree that Senate Bill No. 193 should be vetoed.

Respectfully,

THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor