

review by emergency enactments would set a dangerous precedent in many fields, such as that of zoning boards and other local administrative agencies with quasi-judicial powers.

It has been urged upon me that in a number of areas, local liquor boards, by administrative regulation, have superimposed upon the state-wide licensing requirements, an additional requirement of stock ownership by the resident corporate licensee. The basis for such regulations, where imposed, has been an attempt to assure that the interest of the resident named as one of the licensees is a bona fide one and that he is not merely acting as a straw party. Whether or not such an additional requirement is desirable in the particular area is a matter which has everywhere been entrusted to the discretion of the local boards, and there is no sound reason for differentiating in one county of the state. Furthermore, such a requirement is more properly aimed at preventing the licensing of possibly undesirable or unsubstantial non-residents through the guise of an ostensible resident. The situation is totally different with an established, bona fide corporation of the sort involved here; and the residence qualification of its local officer being the very question involved on the appeal to the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County should be decided in that Court.

For all of which reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 885.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor.

TRMcK/tk

House Bill No. 954—Inspection Tax on Clams

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sub-section (k) of Section 663A of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1956 Supplement), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", and to add new Sub-sections (k-1), (w) and (x) to said Article and Sub-title (1956 Supplement), said new Sub-section (k-1) to follow immediately after Sub-section (k) thereof and new Sub-sections (w) and (x) to follow immediately after Sub-section (v) thereof; relating to an inspection tax for soft shell clams and the use of the funds derived therefrom; providing for and relating generally to buying stations for said soft shell clams; providing for and relating generally to a survey of shoal water areas of Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties and the marking of oyster bars therein.

April 17, 1957.

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am returning herewith House Bill 954 without my signature. The Attorney General was asked to advise me as to legal form and sufficiency of this bill and he advised me as follows: