

Senate Bill No. 407—Slot Machines in St. Mary's County

AN ACT to repeal Sections ~~93A~~ 93B to 93D, inclusive, of Article 19 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1930 Edition), title "St. Mary's County," subtitle "Licenses," as added by Chapter 181 of the Acts of 1951, and to enact new Sections ~~93A~~ 93B to ~~93E~~, 93D, inclusive, in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the sections so repealed, to permit the keeping, maintenance, operation and distribution of slot machines in St. Mary's County where licensed by the owner or operator of the premises where kept for use of the public, to provide for licenses for operation or ownership of slot machines, AND OTHER AMUSEMENT DEVICES or for the sale or lease of slot machines, to limit the number of slot machines which may be licensed, to require disclosure of certain information on machines, ~~to establish the Coin Operated Machine Licensing Board of St. Mary's County,~~ PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 237 TO 264, INCLUSIVE, OF ARTICLE 27 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1957 EDITION), BY MAKING PROVISION FOR THE EFFECT OF THIS ACT IN THE EVENT OF THE ENACTMENT OF A STATE-WIDE LAW PROHIBITING THE OWNERSHIP, OPERATION OR MAINTENANCE OF SLOT MACHINES, to provide penalties for violations, and relating generally to the ownership or operation of slot machines in St. Mary's County.

May 2, 1963.

Honorable William S. James
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. President:

I have today reviewed Senate Bill 407 and, in accordance with Article 2, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I am returning this Bill to you, accompanied by my veto message.

Senate Bill 407 is a local St. Mary's County bill designed to revise the system of licensing slot machines in that County. Although I am in no way in opposition to the purpose and intent of the Bill, I am advised by the office of the Attorney General by letter dated April 24, 1963, that an obvious inadvertence in the Bill may render the State-wide bill on the abolition of slot machines invalid in St. Mary's County.

I am attaching to my veto message a copy of the Attorney General's letter and request that the same be included as a portion of my message. I bring to your attention paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Attorney General's letter, which point out the concern over the welfare that this Bill, if signed, may have on the State-wide legislation. Because of this, I feel that it is necessary that this Bill be vetoed.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. MILLARD TAWES,
Governor.

JMT/ss