

May 2, 1963.

Honorable Marvin Mandel  
Acting Speaker  
House of Delegates  
State House  
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Mr. Mandel:

In accordance with the provisions of Article 2, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I am returning to you House Bill 718, accompanied by my veto message.

House Bill 718 provides that it shall be the duty of the Chief Personnel Officer of the Baltimore City Police Department to classify and evaluate the results of investigations into the character and experience of candidates for appointment and promotion upon the basis of the juvenile laws under Sub-title 'Juvenile Causes' in Article 26 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Both the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City and the Chief Personnel Officer of the Baltimore City Police Department have indicated to me their opposition to this Bill.

Both have suggested that the intent of House Bill 718 may have been to authorize the Baltimore City Police Department to use discretion in reviewing certain juvenile offenses on the part of applicants for appointment.

But they also point out that the Bill, as drawn, is ambiguous and not sufficiently clear as to its purpose. House Bill 718 also does not indicate what action should be taken by the Chief Personnel Officer after he classifies and evaluates the results of his investigations. It should also be noted that Article 26 of the Annotated Code defines a juvenile as a person under the age of 18, whereas the juvenile provisions relate to persons under the age of 16 in Baltimore City.

The Police Commissioner and the Chief Personnel Officer also have advised me that the present law which specifically states the procedures to be followed by the Chief Personnel Officer permit sufficient discretion and that the present law is adequate and satisfactory. For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 718 and am returning this Bill to you.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. MILLARD TAWES,  
Governor.

JMT/Jd/Encl.

#### **House Bill No. 728—People's Court of Prince George's County**

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 98A (d) of Article 52 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1962 Supplement), title "Justices of the Peace," subtitle "Trial Magistrates System," providing for the appointment of two substitute judges of the People's Court for Prince George's County.