

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County - School Board Districts

FOR the purpose of altering the election districts for the School Board Districts of Prince George's County; and clarifying language.

May 17, 1976.

Honorable Steny H. Hoyer  
President of the Senate  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 863.

This bill alters the boundaries of the School Board Election Districts of Prince George's County.

While the Attorney General has approved Senate Bill 863 for constitutionality, he has also indicated to me several practical difficulties with the bill as finally enacted. These matters were brought to the attention of the Attorney General by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws.

To state the situation as briefly as possible, the amendments made to Section 36C(a)(1) of Article 77 by Senate Bill 863 of 1976, when read together with the present law and with the amendments made to the same Section by Chapter 155 of the Acts of 1975, generate considerable confusion as to the proper configuration of some of the school board district boundaries. The Attorney General has gone into some detail in explaining the apparent inconsistencies between some of the boundary lines as set forth in Article 77 and as indicated on the map which sets forth the school board districts. The fault lies not only with the provisions of Senate Bill 863, but also with the description contained in the present law.

The signing of Senate Bill 863, in one instance, will compound the problem of Section 36C(a)(1). With respect to a small part of Election District 17, the signing of Senate Bill 863 will result in that small area being included in both School Board District II and School Board District III. A copy of the Opinion of the Attorney General and a copy of the map of these districts is attached to and should be considered a part of this veto message.