

Senate Bill 551, which was enacted by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 29, 1978, clarifies and otherwise amends numerous provisions of the Juvenile Causes law. These changes include a repeal of the provisions for the expungement of the records which are the subject of Senate Bill 354. However, both Senate Bills 354 and 551 retain the authority of the court to seal any court records of a juvenile.

Obviously, with respect to the expungement of records in cases in which an adjudication has not been made, these two bills are inconsistent. The sponsors of Senate Bill 551 have advised me that the purpose for repealing the expungement provision is that the sealing of records provides sufficient confidentiality for the juvenile. In fact, the records, once sealed, may not be opened for any purpose except by court order upon a showing of good cause.

The General Assembly has presented to me two different policy decisions with regard to the expungement of juvenile records in certain cases. I have chosen to sign Senate Bill 551. The sponsor of Senate Bill 354 has advised me that he does not object to a veto of the bill under these circumstances.

For these reasons, I have decided to veto Senate Bill 354.

Sincerely,
Blair Lee III
Acting Governor

Senate Bill No. 360 - Pensions - Benefits

AN ACT concerning

Pensions - Benefits

FOR the purpose of amending certain provisions that relate to service retirement benefits under the Employees' Retirement System; correcting the surviving spouse provisions; deleting certain obsolete provisions; correcting certain errors; numbering and renumbering certain provisions; and generally relating to service retirement benefits.

May 29, 1978

Honorable Steny H. Hoyer