

Section 4.17 Return of Veto Bills

Again the ten-day limitation is insufficient and a twenty-day limit is the absolute minimum that should be exacted.

However, a major improvement exists wherein the Draft Constitution has removed the mandatory provision for immediate reconsideration of vetoed bills by the General Assembly.

Section 4.18 Organization of Principal Departments

For a constitution to endure it must be flexible, providing direction rather than detail. This concept is recognized by the provisions of Section 4.18, authorizing and delegating the organization of the executive and legislative branches to statutory determination. This enables the State administration to adjust to changing responsibilities without resorting to constitutional amendment. At the same time, I share the view of the commission which prepared the Draft Constitution that the number of principal departments should be prescribed by law.

Section 4.19 Reorganization of Principal Departments

This measure provides the Governor with essential reorganizational powers. Expanding and varying state problems virtually demand this authorization of executive initiative. While I endorse the right of the General Assembly to approve or disapprove any reorganization plan presented by the Governor, I am concerned that the draft provision enables the General Assembly to modify any proposal.

Legislative ability to modify reorganization plans obscures the clear lines of executive responsibility. Moreover, the General Assembly may be unaware of the effect of modification on other executive functions. Prohibition of the power to modify does not deny the legislative branch the right to propose administrative reorganization or to reject it. It simply prevents revisions which might create a structure deviating in part or entirety from the administration's original objectives.

Section 4.20 Appointment and Removal of Administrative Officers

I fully accept the content of Section 4.20. If gubernatorial policies are to be implemented, it is essential to assure the cooperation of all principal department heads through direct and unlimited line responsibility.

Section 4.21 Appointment and Removal of Administrative Boards and Commissions

The provisions of Section 4.21 refer to the multi-headed administrative unit. A series of policy-making boards and commissions has