

and any debate in opposition to that is, of course, in order, Delegate Moser.

DELEGATE MOSER: I rise in very strong opposition of Amendment 16-A and in favor now of leaving the Style Committee's language just as it is.

As I said earlier, Amendment No. 16 which Delegate Carson offered, in my view, really made no substantial difference to the language which is here now. I think 16-A does change it. In my view, 16-A changes what the Committee on Local Government came out with, and I would suggest to you that the Court of Appeals would have some rather substantial difficulty in interpreting the meaning of 16-A once it is adopted.

I, therefore, hope that you will vote against it.

THE PRESIDENT: Are you ready for the question?

Delegate Clagett.

DELEGATE CLAGETT: Mr. Chairman and Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Convention, let me ask you to follow this approach in order that you can be clear with respect to the effect of the Amendment No. 16-A. Please look at your section 3.22. In line 44, the sentence begins "No county shall be exempt from a public general law". Turning the page to line 12 on page 9 and there you will find the exact same language stricken by the Committee on Style. That language strikes "No county shall be exempt from a public general law". Now, going back to page 8, once again, if we took the sentence on line 44, "No county shall be exempt" et cetera, and moved it back to its original position on page 9, line 12, and left it there and then changed the next sentence on line 45, page 8, to read as follows: "The General Assembly shall have the power notwithstanding this limitation to enact laws," et cetera. You would then have clearly before you exactly what 16-A does accomplish.

Now, if you followed me along that line, you will see why I feel so strongly, having lived with this material, that section 3.22 makes this amendment an important one.

Delegate Carson is not being fair when he says I want the General Assembly to enact a local law providing specifically for twenty-three counties and not mentioning two other counties. I say to you that when the General Assembly attempts to enact a law with respect to twenty-two counties, it will go the next step further and pass a general law applicable to all twenty-four

counties, and that would be in the best interest and welfare of the State as a whole.

It is a different method of approach. There is nothing wrong with giving the General Assembly a degree of flexibility by local law to deal with matters which are of more importance than they are merely at the local level and, therefore, of statewide or general effect.

There is nothing wrong with giving them that degree of flexibility, but it is wrong to throw us back into an old practice which has been so much criticized, where so much trading and abstraction has been found and criticized, and all of the recommendations have been to eliminate it.

We want you to go forward, not to go back. I ask you to support Amendment No. 16-A.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Weidemyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President, probably Delegate Clagett or probably Delegate Hanson can answer this question that is perplexing me a little bit. Probably it is covered somewhere else, but Montgomery County has a system a little unique in that they have a county-owned liquor dispensary. I am wondering if that comes under this exception pertaining to natural environment and resources?

*(Laughter.)*

THE PRESIDENT: Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 16-A to Committee Recommendation LB-1, LB-2, and LB-3 as amended by Report S&D-16.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of Amendment No. 16-A. A vote No is a vote against.

In other words, a vote Aye is a vote for the language of Amendment No. 16-A. A vote No leaves the language as is in section 3.23. A vote Aye is a vote in favor. A vote No is a vote against.

Cast your votes.

Has every delegate voted?

Delegate Boileau.

DELEGATE BOILEAU: Mr. President, I hope you really have my switch fixed tomorrow. This would be too much to do it two days in a row.

Aye.