

the practice which has worked satisfactorily in Baltimore City may be continued. For this reason I am vetoing Senate Bill No. 57.

Senate Bill No. 406 (Ch. 571) requires the payment of taxes before tags can be issued in Somerset County, and House Bill No. 66 (Ch. 701), House Bill No. 347 (Ch. 247) and Senate Bill No. 268 (Ch. 158) make similar provisions for Baltimore County, Cecil County and Wicomico County. These are all local bills which are unnecessary, because of my approval of House Bill No. 249, which is of state-wide application. For this reason I am vetoing these four bills.

#### ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

March 23rd, 1927.

*Hon E. Brooke Lee,*  
*Speaker of the House of Delegates,*  
*Annapolis, Maryland.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I beg to return herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 277 (Chapter 49), requiring the County Board of Education of Anne Arundel County to furnish free transportation to and from any public high school of said county for all children residing in said county and enrolled in such school, and give my objections thereto as follows:

The present law gives the school boards of every county of the State full power to furnish free transportation to pupils in the cases covered by this bill, but in no county of the State is it made obligatory upon the school board to do so. The State Department of Education is of opinion that the present bill embodies an unsound policy and that it is much preferable to leave the question of free transportation to the discretion of the local school authorities, so that they may be able to provide for the same in such cases as seem to them proper.

For these reasons I am returning House Bill No. 277 without my approval.

Respectfully yours,

ALBERT C. RITCHIE, *Governor.*