

The measure provides, among other things, that a transcript of the testimony in the Magistrate's Courts must be prepared and forwarded to the Clerk of the Circuit Court when an appeal is noted. The Magistrate's Court is not a Court of record and no provision is made for stenographic assistance as is provided in the higher Courts. It would appear, therefore, that the Magistrates would be guilty of an infraction of the law if they failed to transmit a transcript of the testimony, even though they had no Court reporter or stenographer available to take notes. As has been pointed out to many, no appropriation is made for such stenographic assistance.

For the above stated reasons, as well as because of the fact that uniformity in the handling of criminal cases is so much to be desired, I feel obliged to veto this Bill.

AUTOPSIES.

Chapter 637 (House Bill 709). This measure sets out requirements for the performance of autopsies and the release of bodies which have been under the jurisdiction of the Medical Examiners.

The State Post Mortem Examiners Commission disapproves of the measure because of the administrative difficulties that would be involved. In fact, the physicians take the position that compliance would be "practically impossible".

Our State took a marked step forward in the abolition of the old Coroner's System, under which many abuses were prevalent. For several years the cases in all of the political subdivisions of Maryland, except in one County, have been handled under the new system. So satisfactory has been the result that in the 1943 session, the one remaining County elected to become a part of the new system.

Having sponsored the change from the antiquated Coroner's System to the present modern plan, I am reluctant to have any conditions imposed which would prevent the efficient operation of the system.

Especially in view of the positive declarations of the Post Mortem Examiners that this Bill would be harmful, I feel compelled to veto it.

BALTIMORE COUNTY.

Chapter 874 (Senate Bill 498). Chapter 875 (Senate Bill 499). These Bills are vetoed at the request of the representatives of Baltimore County who are responsible for the introduction of them.

The measures were introduced in order to make sure that Baltimore County has a continuous assessment law and to adjust the salary of the Supervisor of Assessments.