

TO BE REPEALED BY THE STATE AUDITOR.

Chapter 813 (Senate Bill 404). The State Auditor sets forth, in a communication to me, various reasons for the vetoing of this measure which seeks to change the procedure relating to the duties of this official. I quote the following pertinent comments from the State Auditor's letter:

"From the standpoint of effectiveness, I believe the proposed setup tends to weaken the value of the work of the office through the wide dispersal of its reports and the absence of requirements or responsibility for effective action by any of the agencies reported to, with the exception of that imposed under the present law in connection with the reports rendered under item No. 1 listed above. (See Note below.)

"From the standpoint of actual performance at the present time, the Bill would work a great hardship upon the office. For years the office was greatly understaffed and it was impossible to complete annually the work of the department. Within the past two years, appropriations for nine additional auditors have been secured, six beginning October 1, 1941, and three more beginning July 1, 1943. However, in view of the present drain on the manpower of the country, it has been impossible to secure and maintain the authorized staff and it is doubtful if conditions will improve materially in the immediate future. During the past year, I have lost eight men, six of whom were Certified Public Accountants, and have been able to make only one replacement. Consequently, the arrearage in work has increased and only great effort on the part of the remaining staff members has enabled the office to accomplish the work it has done. To impose upon the department at the present time and under the present circumstances the additional reports would retard the examination work still further and, in my opinion, would lessen to that extent the value of the work which the department is still able to render to the State government."

In view of the foregoing, I feel compelled to veto this Bill.

NOTE: The Item No. 1 referred to by the State Auditor is: Report to the Comptroller or to the Governor annually before December 1 of each year, with recommendations for the improvement of records, installation of systems, etc.

TYPHOID CARRIERS.

Chapter 723 (Senate Bill 339). The passage of this Bill is opposed by:

1. The State Health Department.
2. The Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City.
3. A large group of citizens of the State who are followers of the Christian Science faith.