

Council, while the other wards would continue to have their own representative. There is also presented the problem of possible conflict of authority and power between the Mayor elected from the City at large, and the President of the Commissioners similarly chosen.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

TRMcK/tk

Governor

HOUSE BILL NO. 901

May 5, 1953

Honorable John C. Luber
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 901. This bill purports to establish a merit system in Howard County. The general provisions of the bill are commendable, with one very important exception. Only certain designated officials and employees are covered by the proposed classified system. In the main, these officials are at a policy making level, or their duties are otherwise of such character as in general to make it desirable that they not be in the classified service. Thus, the Buildings Engineer, the Chief of Police, and the Roads Engineer of Howard County are among the few persons selected for inclusion in the system. In contrast, most of the clerical employees in the various County offices who should be included in any such system, are not designated in the bill for such treatment.

The expressed purpose of the bill is to attract and retain competent personnel for the County. From the information which I have, it is probable that there will be a directly opposite result because of the exclusion of most of the personnel who should be protected by such a system.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

TRMcK/A

Governor