

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

November 9, 1973.

The Honorable William S. James
 President of the Maryland Senate
 The State House
 Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Senator James:

I am writing this letter in reference to Senate Bill No. 4 which is presently before your body. I am sure that you are all aware of the extreme emergency which has necessitated the introduction of this legislation.

The bill gives emergency powers to the Governor which he does not have at the present time, but which are absolutely necessary to act in the present crisis situation. However, I feel that there should be joint executive and legislative responsibility in this situation.

I have publicly stated and I want to emphasize that it is my intention before promulgating any initial rules or regulations to submit those rules and regulations to the legislative Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review for their approval. I will not promulgate any such rules or regulations without their concurrence. On any subsequent major actions, I would submit them where possible to the Committee for their consideration.

But I must make this exception: where there is an immediate crisis situation where we have to act, I would then request your permission to contact the Chairman of the above committee, inform him of what we intend to do, and subsequently allow the committee to review my action and submit their comments or proposed changes.

This will give both the Executive and Legislative branches the sharing of responsibility in this situation which I think is essential, but in addition will insure the people of Maryland that no action will be taken without the concurrence of both branches of government. I would hope that if the bill is enacted this letter would be made part of the journal so that there is a complete understanding of both branches of government as to what their respective roles will be.

Sincerely,

MARVIN MANDEL,
 Governor.

Which was read.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Senator Pine asked that the rules be suspended in order to report the following bill and two-thirds of the Senators-elect, voting in the affirmative, the rules were suspended by yeas and nays as follows:

Affirmative

Messrs.—

President, Bailey, Bishop, Blount, Bozick, Byrnes, Clark, Conroy, Coolahan, Crawford, Curran, Dalton, Emanuel, Finney, Goodman, Hall, Hodges, Hoyer, Lapidés, Lipin, Malkus, Mason, McGuirk, Miller, Mitchell, Mrs. Nock, Pine, Mrs. Schweinhaut, Smelser, Snyder, Staszak, Staten, Steers, Steinberg, Stone, Thomas, Mrs. Welcome, Wilson.

Total—23

Negative—None