

Senators, notably bachelors, were rather upset. One of them even said that party loyalty sometimes asks too much. I want to emphasize this, that the purpose of this veto was not under any circumstances to make it certain that when a merit system came, Republican appointees would be frozen rather than Democrats. The purpose was to simply remain consistent with an oft stated point of view that I made during the campaign, that Supervisors of Elections and their employees should be immediately responsive to the political party in power, and on some sort of apportioned basis, 1/3 to 2/3 or whatever the case may be. And that it's a mistake in my opinion to freeze into a job a person, purporting to represent a particular party, who may not any longer be responsive to that party's wishes by reason of being frozen in under a previous faction of the party in the merit system. And I don't think this is good for the Supervisors of Elections, so I'm against the merit system in this one respect. I would be very much for it in Register of Wills' offices and in Clerks of the Courts and in all these other things that Senator Pine indicated that I had indicated previously that I was for. I'm still for them, but I don't think the Supervisors of Elections is a place to protect people with a merit system status while those people in a political function are no longer responsive to the political party they are supposed to represent.

Q. Governor, will you act during the session on the bill that permits the Executive of Baltimore County to appoint the Board of Liquor Licenses' Commissioner?

A. Will I act on it?

Q. Will you sign or veto it?

A. Well, I could do it right now without any danger. I'll get to it in the normal course of events. I don't consider it a very important bill.

Q. Do what right now?

A. I could look at it.

Q. Have you decided to veto it?

A. Of course, I'm going to veto it.

Q. Have they come up with a name that's acceptable to you for the Liquor Board?

A. Who?