

existing constitution's provision. The option to reduce may save many items which merit inclusion in part, but could not be accommodated in whole.

#### Section 4.16 Presentation of Bills to the Governor

In my speech of September 29, 1967, I referred specifically to this section. A significant extension of the ten-day limit is imperative. I would suggest that a twenty-day limit for gubernatorial consideration is the absolute minimum. The Attorney General, I know, shares my view since it often takes two weeks for his office to research and prepare opinions attesting to a measure's constitutionality.

A practical and feasible alternative which merits your consideration has been suggested by the Secretary of State, C. Stanley Blair. A bill presented to the Governor during the first forty days of the legislative session would become law if the Governor signs or fails to veto it within twenty days of presentation. Any measure enacted thereafter will become law if the Governor signs or fails to veto it within thirty days after the adjournment of the General Assembly. This I believe is an equitable solution.

The inhibiting time factor pointed out in Section 4.16 brings to mind another debilitating time restriction currently left to statute, which I believe should be corrected through constitutional provision. This is the existing stipulation that gubernatorial appointments requiring Senate confirmation be presented to the Senate within thirty days of the opening of each regular session of the General Assembly.

I favor the inclusion of an additional section to Article IV of the Constitution to cover the presentation of executive appointments. The provision should allow the legislature to fix the date for presentation of gubernatorial appointments at a time not earlier than sixty days from the first day of the regular General Assembly session. This would allow the Governor sufficient time to interview and evaluate prospective appointees. It would also provide time for the Governor to investigate the acceptability to the Senate of his proposed appointees. Under the existing arrangement such careful consideration is impossible, especially for a newly elected Governor.

I might point out that the time allowed by law has been sixty days until recently when the Legislature changed it to thirty days to prevent the Governor from using executive appointments to push his legislative program. I believe the harm that was done far outweighs the danger in the other direction.