

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. President, it is my distinct recollection that our Committee was advised by the representatives of the legislative liaison committee of the General Assembly, that it was somewhat awkward to have the General Assembly in its regular session consider vetoed bills from a previous session and so we provided a means by which the General Assembly could call itself back into special session to consider vetoed bills if the General Assembly thought it was worthwhile doing.

Under the existing Constitution, bills cannot be considered at the beginning of a regular session if it is the first session of a new General Assembly, and I am sure that Delegate Gallagher does not intend to have a new General Assembly consider bills of the last General Assembly that have been vetoed by the governor.

I think that the device that is presented by the Committee is workable. It seems to have the concurrence of the legislative liaison group, or at least the majority of that group, and for that reason I oppose the amendment of Delegate Gallagher.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: Mr. Chairman, the point I wanted to make I think has been made. I think under the present Constitution and law that vetoed bills are returned to the next session of the General Assembly, provided it is the same General Assembly and that their terms have not expired.

I wanted to ask Delegate Gallagher whether it was his intent to have the same limitation by this amendment or not.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: I think that Mrs. Koss's point is well taken. The intent actually is that during any four-year session of the General Assembly, the General Assembly be allowed to consider bills which the governor has vetoed from one of its prior meetings, and not that at the end of a four-year term a new General Assembly would pick up the vetoed bills from the end of the fourth year.

I think that that could be cured by adding language where we say, "or to the next regular session," and add, "of that General Assembly," or "of the same General Assembly," we would provide therefore that there be no carry-over the first year of a new General Assembly.

THE CHAIRMAN: Which of the two forms do you suggest?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: "Of the same General Assembly", on line three of Amendment No. 3, after the words "or to the next regular session of the same General Assembly."

THE CHAIRMAN: In the absence of objection, the amendment will be modified to add after the words "regular session", the words "of the same General Assembly", so that the amendment would add the phrase, "or to the next regular session of the same General Assembly."

Is there any objection?

Delegate Burdette.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: I should like to reserve an interpretation of the language "the same General Assembly." I do not know of any interpretation in Maryland which uses the word "General Assembly" in terms of a time period, but with this understanding, that that is subject to style and drafting, I would present no objection.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair thinks that it is the intent of the amendment by the use of the phrase "same General Assembly" to refer to the same elected General Assembly, and that the Committee on Style, Drafting and Arrangement could have this in mind.

Is that correct, Delegate Gallagher?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes, sir. That is my understanding, and hopefully under those circumstances I would trust that Chairman Morgan might look more favorably upon the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan, do you desire to comment?

Delegate Boyce.

DELEGATE BOYCE: Mr. President, may I question Delegate Gallagher?

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you yield to a question?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Boyce.

DELEGATE BOYCE: It will be a couple, because I cannot get it through my mind. This is what bothers me. Let us assume in the last days of the session a bill is sent to the governor, and after adjournment he vetoes it.