

legislation in the form of proposed bills; and to study the rules of both Houses of the General Assembly and suggest revisions for expediting the business of the Legislature. The Council receives recommendations from the various State agencies, bar associations, labor unions, and other organized groups and private individuals. It holds hearings on legislative proposals and may subpoena witnesses and records.

RESEARCH DIVISION

A Research Division was established to make legal and factual studies of legislation or proposed legislation referred to the Division by the Council. The Division also prepares studies on any matters which may be referred to it by any committee or commission appointed by the Council, or by either or both Houses of the General Assembly, or, with the consent of the Council, by any commission or committee appointed by the Governor (Code 1957, as amended, Art. 40, secs. 27-39).

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| Appropriations | 1963 | 1964 |
| General Funds | \$40,000 | \$60,000 |
| Staff: 5. | | |

A HISTORY OF

THE 1962 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly of Maryland met in approximately its 329th session on February 7, 1962. It adjourned on the evening of the 30th day, March 8, 1962.

A total of 355 bills was introduced, of which 155 were Senate bills and 200 were House bills. Eighty Senate bills passed both Houses; 77 were signed by the Governor and 3 were vetoed. Sixty-six House bills passed both houses; 61 were signed by the Governor and 5 were vetoed.

The Gubernatorial vetoes were made after adjournment of the session, and under a 1960 amendment to the State Constitution, were not required to be returned to the next session for consideration. As a courtesy to the members, the vetoes were returned to the Senate and House at the Special Session of May 25, 1962. The veto of one bill was sustained in the Senate, but on the other two bills the veto was overridden. Subsequently, vetoes on both bills were sustained in the House. Of the House bills vetoed, the House sustained the vetoes on all five bills.

Fifty-five joint resolutions were introduced, 22 in the Senate and 33 in the House. Thirteen Senate Joint Resolutions and 16 House Joint Resolutions passed both Houses.

The General Assembly of 1962 proposed four amendments to the State Constitution. One amendment permitted imprisonment for debt of persons failing to pay a court order for support of illegitimate children. Another increased the annual salaries of the members of the General Assembly from \$1,800 to \$3,000. The third changed the procedure for appraisal of property to be acquired for public purposes by Montgomery County. The last amendment increased the number of signers required on a petition to refer to a vote State-wide acts of the General Assembly. All amendments were voted upon at the 1962 General Election and all except the salary increase for General Assembly members were approved by the voters.