

**A HISTORY OF THE MAY 1975
SPECIAL AND EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

This session was called by the Governor for May 12, 1975 and adjourned on the same day.

Chapter 750 of the Acts of 1974, establishing the procedures for property tax credits for qualified homeowners and renters, was repealed by the enactment of Senate Bill 1, Chapter 1. This bill provided for changes in the method of financing the Circuit Breaker tax relief program.

Senate Bill 2, Chapter 2, was enacted to increase State Aid for Police Protection in the State.

**A HISTORY OF THE 1976 SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The General Assembly met in regular session on January 14, 1976 and adjourned on April 12, 1976.

A total of 3,350 bills was introduced, of which 1,128 were Senate bills and 2,222 were House bills. Of the 1,128 Senate bills, 337 were passed by both Houses; of this latter number, 297 were signed by the Governor and 40 were vetoed. Of the 2,222 House bills introduced, 673 were passed by both Houses, and of this latter number, 627 were signed by the Governor and 46 were vetoed. The Governor also vetoed eleven items in the General Construction Loan bill, Senate Bill 371, Chapter 914.

Joint Resolutions introduced totaled 260, with 83 in the Senate and 177 in the House.

Of these, 39 Senate and 56 House Joint Resolutions were passed by both Houses. Thirty-six Senate and 52 House Joint Resolutions were signed by the Governor.

The budget bill enacted at this session for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, amounted to \$3,524,632,256. The General Construction Loan bill passed was for a total of \$61,881,000.

Among the more important laws enacted were: A bill to regulate Consumer Credit Agencies, a bill to require banking institutions and savings and loan associations to pay interest on short-term and specific purpose savings accounts, a bill to require full-time duty for the Bank Commissioner, a bill to repeal the Fair Trade Act, a bill to prohibit participation by Maryland firms in foreign discriminatory boycotts, a bill to regulate charitable organizations and solicitations, a bill to provide for the candidacy and election of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, a bill to extend the circuit breaker property tax relief to disabled homeowners, a bill to provide for the regulation of mobile homes and parks, a bill to require photographs on drivers' licenses and to provide for changes in license renewals, a bill to create a Criminal Justice Information System, a bill to create the office of State Prosecutor, and provision for a rapid transit system was included in the State budget.

Several proposals were made to amend the Constitution of Maryland. Among them was a proposal revising and clarifying the authority of the Attorney General, and another changing the proportion of names to be filed by a certain date for a referendum petition.