

1 law, and so in its charter, if it has this kind of pro-
2 vision, it could continue to have this provision?

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, it seems to me there are
4 two different concepts you are talking about, and I think
5 Dr. Bard is making a valid point, although I disagree
6 with his conclusion. One is the specific act of the
7 General Assembly which says, Thou shalt not, to a group
8 of Counties, exercise a group of powers. If the Legis-
9 lature passes such a law, then no County, including the
10 City of Baltimore can exercise such power and the Com-
11 mittee's position is that if it makes it applicable to
12 not less than three Counties, that is a sufficient as-
13 surance that it is not a riper bill that is designed to
14 apply to only one County. The second provision is the
15 provision in the third paragraph which gives precedence
16 to public general laws. You can't take away from the
17 Legislature the power to pass legislation generally.
18 Here, again, this may be by classification, and it could
19 be applied to as little as three Counties. Now, what
20 you are saying is that you may have a situation where the
21 General Assembly ought to be able to pass a special law