

advise as to the legal question involved. I mention the above facts in order to show that the members of the committee were all friendly to the proposition.

This committee unanimously recommended that I veto the bill; first, because the State Budget, which had been passed more than a week before the bill was passed, did not provide for the cost of administration, which the committee found would be at least \$100,000 during the first year, and, secondly, because the committee considered the bill as finally passed "obscurely and ambiguously worded."

Following is a copy of the committee's report to me:

April 8, 1929.

His Excellency,
Albert C. Ritchie,
Governor of Maryland,
Annapolis, Maryland.

DEAR GOVERNOR RITCHIE:

The undersigned committee appointed by you to consider House Bill No. 378 and to advise you upon the question of its workability respectfully report:

Your committee has carefully read and considered the bill at two sessions, consuming practically the whole of today, and has had before it the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and his Chief Deputy, and while the committee is entirely in sympathy with some plan to facilitate the issuance of motor vehicle licenses and titles to residents of the Counties of Maryland in their respective counties, we find that no provision has been made in the Budget passed by the Legislature for the necessary funds to put the law into operation.

The estimated cost of this for the first year will be at least \$100,000, which sum, under the bill, would have to be paid by the Automobile Commissioner's office. Under the Budget Amendment to the Constitution no money in the State Treasury can be spent by any Department in this State unless it is appropriated in the Budget, and under the law all money collected by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles must be paid into the State Treasury. At the last session of the Legislature the Budget was passed on March 21st, while the Bill under consideration was not passed until April 1st, and hence it was impossible to make any provision in the Budget for the ex-