

"Seats for Female Employees in Stores or Factories", requiring certain establishments to maintain suitable seats for the use of female employees.

This bill was introduced for the purpose of repealing certain sections of the Public Local Laws of Maryland and the Baltimore City Charter, requiring seats for women employees in stores and factories. In the introduction and consideration of the measure in the General Assembly, it was felt that the provisions of the general State law were sufficiently comprehensive and covered the same subject matter.

Under this belief the enactment now before me was passed unanimously and no objections were raised until recently when a public hearing was requested. This hearing has been held and in the discussion it has developed that the Baltimore City Charter provisions safeguard the interest of women working in manufacturing establishments and that these safeguards might be lost if the bill is repealed. It is interesting to note that the provisions in question date back to 1882.

I am loath to have any action taken, the effect of which will be to deprive female employees of protective measures now provided by law. This would be inconsistent with our policy of affording even greater safeguards for women in industry. Investigation discloses that, during the increased production efforts in industry, women employed in plants in Baltimore City have benefited from the local law now sought to be repealed.

Maryland and District of Columbia Industrial Union Council, the Baltimore League of Women Voters, and the Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City all ask that this bill be vetoed. Accordingly, I am exercising the authority vested in me to nullify the provisions of this bill, believing that the Legislature had no intention of depriving women of the safeguards afforded by the existing local laws.

#### HOUSE BILL 650.

AN ACT authorizing and directing the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City to pay a pension to George V. Hammen, a former member of the Police Department of Baltimore City.

This bill would require the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City to pay a pension to George V. Hammen, a former member of the Department.

The Police Commissioner of Baltimore City disapproves of this bill stating that the former officer was paid a lump sum at the time of his retirement, following a physical injury.