

hearings and, in the two years during which it has been on the statute books, favorable approval has been expressed.

It was not understood that the recent Legislature was considering any change in the basic system and Bar Association committees and others interested in the pension plan were totally unaware that this bill would change any of the important features of the existing system. It was the general impression that Senate Bill 123 was confined to the individual case in question.

I might, also, note the fact that, when this bill was sent from the Senate to the House, it contained provisions which eliminated two counties in the State so that it would have been questionable whether Judges in those counties would have been entitled to pensions after their judicial service. However, just before adjournment, these provisions were eliminated and thereupon amendments were added, one of which made the change now being discussed.

After adjournment, officials of the Bar Associations noted with surprise the effect of the new law if given executive approval. The President of the Maryland State Bar Association has registered disapproval of the proposed enactment and the Executive Committee of the Bar Association of Baltimore City has advised me of its desire to have the bill vetoed.

It seems apparent that, in an evident attempt to take care of an individual case, the Legislature has written in a provision affecting an entire group of Judges to their detriment. I do not think this was intended and believe it would be unfair to the Judges who are serving with the right to expect that, if the voters elect them for new terms, they will be entitled to receive credit for the entire period of their service when they are eligible for pensions.

I believe that the next Legislature can, if it so desires, clear up the situation with regard to the one Judge without disrupting the present pension plan. Under all the circumstances, therefore, I feel it my duty to veto Senate Bill 123.

MANSLAUGHTER.

SENATE BILL 611.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 436A of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Manslaughter", making it a misdemeanor for a person to cause the death of another in operating a vehicle and conferring jurisdiction upon Trial Magistrates in the several Counties over said offense.