

VETOES

BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF 1949 AND VETOED BY GOVERNOR LANE AND HIS REASONS IN EACH CASE FOR THE SAME

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BILLS VETOED IS 91

All of these bills were vetoed by the Governor after the adjournment of the Legislature, either having been presented to him after the adjournment of the Legislature or not in sufficient time to require executive action before adjournment.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

HOUSE BILL No. 226

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 103 of Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1947 Supplement), title "Alcoholic Beverages", sub-title "Restrictions Upon Licensees", relating to sales of alcoholic beverages to minors and misrepresentations by minors and other persons of their ages for the purpose of obtaining alcoholic beverages and excepting certain counties from certain provisions of said section.

This Bill concerns the jurisdiction of Liquor License Board in cases where the licensee has been tried in the Criminal Court or before a magistrate on a charge of selling to minors.

As the law now stands, the Board has the right to hear such cases regardless of the action of the courts. The provisions of this Bill takes away all jurisdiction of the Board, not only in cases where there is an acquittal by the Court, but also in the case of conviction where there is a special finding of fact that the person involved diligently exercised every reasonable effort to ascertain, and was justified in believing that the minor was not under twenty-one years of age.

The functions of the courts and the Board are separate and distinct. The jurisdiction of the Board is not criminal. It is a regulatory and fact-finding body, charged with the duty of supervising retail outlets.

I feel that it would be a mistake to take away from a fact-finding body, which has the power to grant, transfer, suspend