

returning the City about 11/12ths of the total spent by it for highway construction. The same picture in varying degrees exists throughout the State in the various counties, which received in the aggregate about \$2,500,000 from the State in 1945, as compared with approximately \$9,000,000 currently distributable therein.

It is, therefore, in the interests of a sound fiscal policy for all the citizens of the State, and with a view to continuing efforts at management of state affairs to afford, if possible, further tax reductions, that I return herewith House Bill 24 without my approval.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

TRMcK:js

Governor

March 27, 1952

Honorable John C. Luber  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House Bill 5, passed and sent to me by the 1952 Session of the General Assembly, would permit members of the State Police to perform police functions in municipalities, which maintain their own police forces, when requested to do so by the State's Attorney or the Grand Jury of the county in which the municipality is situated.

The State Police already have the authority to act officially in such instances when they are requested to do so by the Mayor or the chief police officer, or when ordered to do so by the Governor.

It seems to me that the existing authority is amply broad, and that the State's Attorney or Grand Jury of any county can, when it is deemed necessary, obtain the services of the State Police through the proper municipal authorities, or, in extreme cases, through the Governor. I feel that the proposed law would, in effect, increase the area of command and the demand upon the services of a department which already has its hands full with its normal duties. I believe it is up to the citizens of a municipality to so exercise their franchise as to demand the best in local government, including policing, and that when a situation arises which requires outside help, the municipal officers are in the best position to know of the need and to request the help. Interference by county officials or county bodies could lead, in