

MERIT SYSTEM

May 7, 1951

Hon. George W. Della
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. President:

I return S.B. 141 without my approval because it appears to me to open dangerous possibilities of abuse of the merit system. Doubtless, means should be found for the periodical clearance of eligible lists, but this should be done on a basis that does not permit of improper discrimination.

Respectfully,

THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,
Governor

MOTOR VEHICLES

May 7, 1951

Hon. George W. Della
President of the Senate
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Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. President:

Senate Bill No. 31 purports to exempt non-residents of this State from payment of the motor vehicle titling tax, upon becoming a resident of this State and being required to obtain an automobile title certificate. In justification of this exemption, it is claimed that the owners of such vehicles have already paid some tax in other jurisdictions upon titling of their cars and that no transfer of title is involved. I am advised that the granting of the exemption would involve a substantial loss of revenue to the State. Further, I believe that the Bill might well involve administrative difficulties in verification of non-residence far beyond any supposed inequity which it possibly corrects. The exemption might to some extent encourage residents living close to the Maryland borders to purchase automobiles in other jurisdictions which do not levy a similar tax. Maryland automobile dealers would thereby be deprived of business and the State of income to which it is lawfully entitled.

Aside from this, it does not follow that the non-resident coming into the State has paid a tax for the original titling of his car equivalent to that paid by Maryland residents. To