

In the administration of public affairs and public agencies experience has shown that certain orderly procedures must be observed. Though they may at times prove troublesome, the removal of all restrictions in the handling of public funds leads to possible dangers that are worse. Even private business of any magnitude cannot afford to operate according to the will of any single individual. The character of the checks and balances should, of course, vary according to the nature of the task to be performed, but appropriate checks and balances of some kind are unavoidable. The Constitution of the United States and the fundamental laws of the State reflect the determination of the American people to maintain such a system.

I am fully conscious that there is room for the opinion that in certain respects the management of a university requires a freedom of action that might not be appropriate for other activities of the State. If the reasons for changing the law in this respect are fully presented, I would be disposed to give them due consideration; but what is before me is a proposal to establish a government within a government, and that operated in its most fundamental aspects by one man. As I cannot rewrite the provisions of the Bill, but must accept or reject it in its present terms, I am constrained to veto House Bill 681.

By this action an interval will be provided for members of the Legislature to study soberly and without a sense of urgency issues which the bill raises of fundamental importance to the administration of the State government and the cause of good education.

May 7, 1951

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House Bill No. 701 purports to amend the charter of the Corporation known as "The Trustees of the Endowment Fund of the University of Maryland" to provide that the members of the Corporation shall be the Regents of the University of Maryland and all the rights, powers, duties and functions now conferred by the Charter upon the trustees shall be transferred to the Regents of the University of Maryland.

"The Trustees of the Endowment Fund of the University of Maryland" was incorporated by Chapter 529 of the Acts of 1904 of the General Assembly of Maryland in 1904 as amended by Chapter 435 of the Acts of 1929. On April 9, 1946, the Corporation was chartered under the General Corporation Law and