

from the policy questions involved. Obviously, I am in favor of all possible reductions, not only in the sales tax, but in other fields of taxation utilized by the State. I believe that there is general agreement, however, that any such reductions of or exemptions from a general tax should operate equally and uniformly for the benefit of all, rather than any selected class. This non-discriminatory application was followed in the large scale reduction, totalling about Eight Million Dollars, effected in the sales tax at a special session of the General Assembly in 1950, and it is likewise true of the 15% income tax reduction which the past session of the General Assembly renewed. For the foregoing reasons, which I have also expressed in connection with House Bill No. 473, I am returning this bill without my approval.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor

TRMcK/tk

SENATE BILL NO. 440

May 6, 1953

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

Dear Mr. President:

I have today vetoed Senate Bill No. 440 which is returned herewith. This Bill would provide authority in the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County to permit dog racing with pari-mutuel betting for an unlimited number of days. While the Bill is subject to a referendum, I do not think such a drastic change in the State's fundamental policy as to the conduct of racing and racing revenues should be left to the discretion of the people of any local sub-division. Moreover, there is, in my opinion, grave doubt that the public interest would warrant any authorization of dog racing in this State, with its possible attendant problems, however limited and regulated.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor

TRMcK/A