

1886

VETOES

HOUSE BILL NO. 784

May 7, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have this day vetoed House Bill No. 784, which provides a small salary increase for the Baltimore City Traffic Court Magistrates, but eliminates the authority to fix their salaries in the State budget. This is a complete reversal of the modern trend, in government to avoid fixed salaries, and, in general, place the responsibility for same in the Executive. The wisdom of such practice is high-lighted by this bill, which is typical of literally hundreds of those with which the Legislative is always compelled to concern itself. The fixing of salaries by an inflexible statute thus would require another legislative act even to make a very minor salary change, here \$225.00.

A glance at this Bill shows the numerous amendments in it by way of deletion and insertion and the obvious use of a considerable amount of legislative time, aside from the expense involved. A similar situation exists in many of the Counties with regard to purely local offices, most of a very minor character. The tendency shown in some of the local sub-divisions to vest discretion in the County Commissioners or other governing body to fix salaries should be encouraged by the example of the State's satisfactory operation in this field.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,
Governor

TRMcK/A

HOUSE BILL NO. 788

May 6, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House Bill No. 788, which I am returning herewith as vetoed, would eliminate the existing prohibition in the