

Senate Bill No. 196—Financial Responsibility

AN ACT to add new Section 119A to Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition and 1954 Supplement), title "Motor Vehicles", sub-title "Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility", to follow immediately after Section 119 of said Article, relating to the furnishing of financial responsibility upon being convicted of a "moving violation" as defined in this Article. TWICE WITHIN A CERTAIN PERIOD.

May 9, 1955

Senator Louis L. Goldstein
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. President:

I have today vetoed Senate Bill 196. This is another in a series of measures enacted in recent years with the aim of bringing larger groups of motorists under the financial responsibility laws. The objective of protecting innocent victims from irresponsible drivers is not controversial. However, the problem of administration and interpretation which is presented by this bill leads the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to recommend its veto in its present form. Furthermore, the substantial charge of \$3.00 which this bill adds to the costs in every conviction of a moving violation, regardless of the degree of the offense, may be an undue burden upon motorists charged with relatively minor violations.

It seems to me that the time has come for serious consideration of exactly what the State's policy should be in the financial responsibility field. In this country and in Canada, there are operating experience records in connection with such statutory programs as compulsory insurance and unsatisfied claim and judgment funds, as well as more moderate, comprehensive approaches. The advisability of adopting a program which will provide a systematic plan for the future, rather than piece meal attacks on the problem, is a matter which I believe should commend itself to the Legislative Council for further study and recommendation.

Respectfully yours,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor

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Senate Bill No. 242—Abandoned Ice Boxes

AN ACT to add Section 399A to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments", said new section to follow immediately after Section 399 thereof and to be under the new sub-title "Ice Boxes", making it unlawful to place, or permit to be placed, outside of any building or dwelling in a place accessible to children any abandoned or unattended or uncrated ice box, refrigerator or freezer cabinet which has a door or a lock which cannot be released for opening from the inside thereof.