

May 9, 1955

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

Dear Mr. President:

Senate Bill 568 would eliminate the existing authority of the Secretary of State to make such distribution of the Maryland Manual as he deems necessary or desirable and would require him to make a charge for all copies distributed by him, other than to members of the Legislature, schools, the Maryland State Library and the Department of Legislative Reference.

Under his existing authority, the Secretary of State furnishes necessary copies of the manual for use of the Executive Department and to all of the other State Departments, Boards and Agencies. The bill would thus require the interchange of State funds between various agencies to the Secretary of State, who would otherwise be precluded from furnishing the manual to such agencies. At present non-official requests are referred to the printer, who maintains a small supply of additional copies as a convenience.

The last printing of the manual cost the State about \$9,000.00, for which it received 4300 volumes. More than 3800 volumes were necessary to fulfill the specific requirements of the law, and including distribution to all State Agencies. Between 400 and 500 volumes were available for distribution to various organizations and persons deemed to have official importance; included in this category were requests for additional copies from members of the Legislature and various State Agencies. The other requests, which were referred to the printer, resulted in the sale of about 200 volumes.

The only possibly valid reason for changing the present system of distribution would be to effect an economy. However, it appears from the foregoing that the Secretary of State would have to set up machinery for the sale of a few hundred books, and the time and expense involved from the standpoint of his office, as well as that of other State Agencies, could not justify the change. I have accordingly vetoed the bill.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor

TRMcK/A

Senate Bill No. 575—Motor Vehicle License Fees

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 6 of Chapter 657 of the Acts of 1953, as said section was amended by Chapter 9 of the Acts of 1955, postponing from 1956 to 1957 the effective date of certain taxes, permits and registration fees applicable to motor vehicles which were imposed by said Chapter 657 of the Acts of 1953.