

be subject to approval by a majority of the qualified voters of districts three (3), four (4), five (5) and six (6), of said Town.

April 28, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

House Bill 681 authorizes a special annual assessment of \$3.00 on each improved parcel of land in the town of College Park, to enable a volunteer fire company to finance the construction cost of a new firehouse. The assessment is to run for not more than ten years. The title of the bill states that the assessment is applicable only in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth districts of College Park, but the body of the bill contains no such limitation, although provision is made therein for a referendum in those particular districts. The Attorney General advises that "the bill does more than just remove what might be construed as a tax limit, and for that reason, I feel that it runs afoul of Article 11E (the Home Rule amendment to the Constitution) and is invalid and unconstitutional".

An additional reason cited for invalidity is the flat rate for each lot, which would probably violate constitutional requirements of uniformity in taxation.

Further, it appears to me that portions of the bill, as noted, are broader than its title. For all of which reasons, I am compelled to veto House Bill 681.

Respectfully,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor

TRMcK/A

House Bill No. 716—Regulation of Cats, Prince George's County

AN ACT to add Section 464 (b) (34) to the Code of Public Local Laws of Prince George's County (1953 Edition, being Article 17 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Prince George's County", sub-title "County Commissioners", to follow immediately after Section 464 (b) (33) thereof, authorizing the County Commissioners of Prince George's County to regulate cats.

April 28, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am returning without my approval House Bill 716, described in its title as "An Act . . . authorizing the County Commissioners of Prince George's County to regulate cats."

The body of the bill would go on "To provide for the control, regulation and restraint of cats running at large in Prince George's