

But who is to distinguish here between the bona fide and the opportunistic?

If an established Democratic Club in a given election district were to be granted a bingo license on Monday, would the licensing authorities have the fortitude on Tuesday to deny one to a suddenly organized group calling itself the Republican Club of the same district.

If Saturday is the best night for bingo, who is going to decide—without being accused of partisanship and unfairness—whether the Republican Club or the Democratic Club in a certain area is to have the Saturday night license—or whether the two should be permitted to operate in competition.

I can envision political clubs springing up overnight—not alone to represent election districts, but to represent small areas within each district, even to represent streets and avenues and short blocks within those areas.

Such political activity indeed might be desirable if the bona fide purpose were to promote political interests within the area.

But I am sure that such interest in the science of government is not best promoted by whirling disc wheels, shouted numbers and cries of “bingo.”

Whether the purpose of so many bingo games—possibly occupying every night of the week—was truly for charity as provided by the law or “in furtherance of the purposes of such organization”, as further provided, I can see in the proposal no good for the communities and no good for our system of political parties.

Political organizations, I believe, should stick to politics in the best tradition and not turn to competition in the field of bingo.

Let the traditional oyster roast still serve as the lighter side of the serious business of politics.

In view of the above, I am returning to you unsigned Senate Bill No. 480, trusting that, after serious thought, your Honorable Body will support this veto.

Sincerely yours,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,
Governor.

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Senate Bill No. 518—Clams in Anne Arundel County

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, SECTION 663A(V) AND Section 663B of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1956 Supplement), title “Natural Resources”, subtitle “Oysters and Clams”, ~~making the provisions for the taking of soft shell clams by hydraulic dredge and the licensing and restrictions generally, applicable to Anne Arundel County; and further providing for certain additional provisions to apply in Anne Arundel County.~~ AND TO ADD NEW SECTIONS 663A (E-1) AND 663A(W), RESPECTIVELY, TO SAID ARTICLE AND SUBTITLE OF THE CODE, SAID NEW SECTIONS TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER SECTIONS 663A(E) AND 663A(V) THEREOF, RESPECTIVELY, GENERALLY AMENDING THE LAWS IN REFERENCE TO THE TAKING OF SOFT SHELL CLAMS IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.