

his appointment as tax assessor. No other County in the State has such a requirement and this, in my opinion, would establish a very undesirable precedent.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. MILLARD TAWES,

Governor.

Enclosure

Senate Bill No. 620—Boundaries for Potomac River Compact

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Article II of Section 261A of Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1962 Supplement), title "Natural Resources," subtitle "Fish and Fisheries," subheading "General Provisions—Compact of 1958," amending the Potomac River Compact geographical boundaries to eliminate Heron Island in St. Mary's County from the jurisdiction of the Compact.

May 3, 1963.

Honorable William S. James
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. President:

I have today reviewed Senate Bill 620 and, in accordance with Article 2, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I am returning this Bill to you, accompanied by my veto message.

Senate Bill 620 re-defines the territory in which the Potomac River Fisheries Commission shall have jurisdiction in the vicinity of Heron Island. This Island is situated east of Blackistone Island and near the entrance to Breton Bay.

The intent of the Bill is to simplify jurisdictional problems presented by the unnecessarily crooked line that separates Maryland waters from Commission waters in this area. Also by straightening the line, as originally intended, St. Mary's County clam dredgers would have additional territory in which to work.

Unfortunately, when the Bill was drafted, errors were inadvertently made whereby the new line created between the waters of St. Mary's County and the waters of the Potomac River would run through two natural oyster bars.

It is my belief that since the Bill was not drawn as originally intended, to sign this Bill into law would create more problems than it would solve.

I would like to point out that since this Bill was designed to amend a portion of the Potomac River Compact, it would not be put into effect until a similar Act was passed by the State of Virginia. Inasmuch as the Virginia Legislature does not meet until 1964, no delay