

would be detrimental to its objectivity and possibly work some impediment to its independent judgment and recommendations.

Sincerely yours,

(s) SPIRO T. AGNEW,

Governor.

House Bill No. 523—Well Drillers

AN ACT to repeal Section 2 of Article 96A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume and 1966 Supplement), title "Water Resources," subtitle "General Provisions"; to repeal Sections 30 through 43 of said Article and title of the Code, subtitle "Well Drillers"; and to enact new Section 2 and new Sections 30 through 43 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the sections so repealed, Sections 30 through 37 to be under the new subtitle "Well Drilling" and Sections 38 through 43 to be under the new subtitle "State Board of Well Drillers"; to revise the laws applicable to persons engaged in well drilling in the State, to create a State Board of Well Drillers to issue licenses to water-well contractors and well drillers, to provide for the compensation, powers and duties of the Board, to require permits from the Department of Water Resources for well drilling, to provide penalties for violations and to relate generally to well drilling in the State.

May 4, 1967.

Honorable Marvin Mandel
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Section 17 of Article II of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed today House Bill 523.

This bill would create a State Board to license and regulate, and would otherwise modify laws applicable to, well drillers.

The attached copy of an opinion on the bill by the Attorney General, which is to be considered a part of this message, although it does not declare the bill totally lacking in form and legal sufficiency, points out such substantial conflicts with associated laws and raises such troublesome questions of interpretation that I feel compelled to veto it.

This is not to say that I am opposed to, or even unsympathetic toward, the principles involved in the measure; and I would hope that a bill adequately meeting the points raised by the Attorney General can be introduced in a future session of the General Assembly to overcome what I understand to be difficult problems encountered by persons engaged in the business of well-drilling.

Nevertheless, for the reasons given, I must veto this bill.

Sincerely yours,

(s) SPIRO T. AGNEW,

Governor.