

pounds per axle as opposed to the maximum weight recommended by the American Association of State Highway Officials which is 20,000 pounds per axle. If this bill is enacted into law, the maximum axle rate will increase to 24,640 pounds. A study of permissible weights throughout the Nation reveals that 32 states have maximum axle weights lower than 20,000 pounds as recommended by the American Association of State Highway Officials. This study also reveals that if this bill is signed into law, Maryland will have a permissible axle weight greater than any State in the United States.

I also point out that the design of all highway bridges had as a basis the existing statutory load limitations. To authorize increased loads will contribute to the overstressing of these bridges and potential earlier deterioration and possible failure.

The Maryland State Police advises that if this bill becomes law, it will permit different axle weights on the primary and secondary system of highways than those permitted on the Interstate System of Highways; and the police advise that this will present a most difficult enforcement problem.

Sincerely,

(s) SPIRO T. AGNEW,

Governor.

House Bill No. 790—Damages for Wrongful Death

AN ACT to amend Section 4 of Article 67 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Replacement Volume), title "Negligence Causing Death," to change the manner of determination of damages in an action for damages for the wrongful death of a person, including a minor child.

May 7, 1968.

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 790 and am returning it to you.

This bill would change the manner of determination of damages in an action for the wrongful death of a minor child. The sponsor of the bill, House Majority Leader, Thomas Hunter Lowe, has written to me expressing some doubts about the interpretation of the new provisions and asking that it be vetoed. I am complying with his request.

Sincerely,

(s) SPIRO T. AGNEW,

Governor.