

House Bill No. 113—Marriage Licenses

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 6 of Article 62 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume and ~~1970~~ 1971 Supplement), title "Marriages," to require both of the contracting parties to present birth certificates or other proof of age when applying for a marriage license.

May 31, 1972.

Honorable Thomas Hunter Lowe
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 113.

This bill requires that persons applying for marriage licenses evidence proof of age to the court clerk.

The Attorney General has advised me that House Bill 113 has a defective title and is therefore of doubtful constitutionality, in that the title contains no reference to the effective repeal of certain provisions relating to Cecil County. For the reasons given in the attached copy of the Attorney General's opinion, which is to be considered a part of this message, I have decided to veto House Bill 113.

Sincerely,

/s/ MARVIN MANDEL,
Governor.

Letter from The Attorney General on H. B. 113

April 28, 1972.

The Honorable Marvin Mandel
Governor of Maryland
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Re: House Bill 113

Dear Governor Mandel:

We have reviewed House Bill 113, which would repeal and re-enact with amendment Section 6 of Article 62. As it presently stands, Section 6 consists of a Section (a), relating to issuance of marriage licenses generally, and of a Section (b), which contains special provisions for Cecil County. However, since House Bill 113 repeals and re-enacts the entire Section 6, the effect would be to remove the special Cecil County provisions from the law. There is no suggestion of this effect in the title. We therefore believe the title is defective.

We might also point out a possible ambiguity. Only one of the contracting parties would be required, under the Bill, to personally appear before the clerk to apply for the license. This would continue the present provision of Section 6(a). However, the title to