

General Assembly, which I vetoed on May 26, 1970. As I noted on both of those two prior occasions, in my view, a parent or guardian who gives his consent for his minor child to obtain a driver's license, yet fails to maintain the appropriate insurance, ought to be responsible for the child's driving. Moreover, requiring parents either to provide insurance covering their children or assume liability for their children's negligent driving, may lead to greater parental teaching and supervision with respect to minor's driving habits.

It may be thought that, in light of Maryland's new Required Security Law (Chapter 73, Acts of 1972, Sections 7-101 and 7-102 of Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland), there would no longer be a need for such added safeguards. However, these provisions require only the "owner of a motor vehicle required to be registered in this State" to evidence the necessary security before he may receive a certificate of registration. No security is required to obtain a driver's license. Consequently, a minor could well be operating a motor vehicle without any insurance coverage, such as, for example, where the operation of the vehicle is unauthorized or where the vehicle has been duly registered in some state other than Maryland.

In view of the foregoing, and while I recognize the desirability of other of the provisions of this bill and would support the same if independently re-introduced at a subsequent session of the General Assembly, I feel that Senate Bill 954 must be vetoed.

Sincerely,

MARVIN MANDEL,
Governor.

Which was read.

Senate Bill No. 954—By Senator Curran:

An Act to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 6-107 and 6-108 of Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume and 1972 Supplement), title "Vehicle Laws," subtitle "Subtitle 6. Drivers' Licenses," and to add new Sections 7-103 to 7-105, inclusive, and Sections 7-201 to 7-211, inclusive, to Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume and 1972 Supplement), title "Vehicle Laws," subtitle "Subtitle 7. Required Security," to follow immediately after Section 7-102 thereof, abolishing the imputation of liability of a minor to a parent or guardian, prohibiting the use or operation of uninsured vehicles in this State, vehicles exempt from compulsory insurance requirements, requirements of vehicles owned by nonresidents, defining judgment, establishing procedures for courts reporting nonpayment of judgment, action with respect to nonresidents suspension for nonpayment of judgments, exceptions for certain Government vehicles, exceptions when insurer liable or insolvent, suspensions until judgments satisfies, satisfaction of judgments, installment payments of judgments, defaults for breach of agreements and disposition of Financial Responsibility deposits, and clarifying the language in Sections 6-107 and 6-108.

The President put the question: Shall the bill pass notwithstanding the objections of the Executive?