

sewage and sludge into Charles County.

May 31, 1974.

Honorable John Hanson Briscoe
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 1683.

This bill prohibits the transportation into Charles County, for the purposes of disposal or deposit, of any sewage or sludge, without first obtaining a permit therefor from the County Commissioners.

In 1970, when the Maryland Environmental Service was created, careful consideration was given by the General Assembly to the balance of State and local authority over the handling and disposition of both solid and liquid wastes. At that time, it was determined by the legislature that, with respect to solid wastes only, a county (or other local unit) would have the right of veto over any proposed disposition within its jurisdiction of solid wastes; however, with respect to the disposition of liquid wastes, which include sewage, the Maryland Environmental Service need not obtain the prior consent of the local governing body in its regional planning (cf., Chapter 240 of the Acts of 1970). This balance has ever since continued to be the established legislative policy of the State (cf., subtitle 1 of Title 3 of the new Natural Resources Article, as enacted by Chapter 4 of the Acts of 1973, 1st Sp. Sess.).

To permit single-county regulation over the transportation of sewage—as does House Bill 1683—would be in contravention of that legislative policy and, more seriously, would impair the ability of the Maryland Environmental Service to plan and provide adequately for regional liquid waste collection, treatment, and disposal facilities. For these reasons, the Department of Natural Resources has urged that I veto House Bill 1683. A copy of the Department's letter is attached to and should be considered a part of this veto message.

Consequently, I have decided to veto House Bill 1683.

Sincerely,
/s/ Marvin Mandel
Governor