

Administration

AN ACT concerning

State Highway Administration - Sale of Land  
No Longer Needed

FOR the purpose of granting the Administration certain authority with regard to the sale of land no longer needed, establishing certain notification requirements prior to advertisement of sale of certain land for public auction, and revising and clarifying the language and structure of the law.

May 15, 1975.

Honorable John Hanson Briscoe  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 64.

This is a Departmental bill which allows the State Highway Administration auctioneers who are disposing of property no longer needed to refuse a bid if it does not approximate the appraised value of the property. Such action presently requires a ruling by the State Highway Administrator.

A last minute amendment to this bill requires the State Highway Administration to request the State Department of Planning to notify, among others, the adjoining property owners whenever any tract of land is no longer needed for highway purposes. This notice must be given no later than 60 days prior to advertisement of the land for public auction.

The Secretary of Transportation advises me that this amendment to the bill will generate substantial additional expenses and greater loss of time than any saving which the State Highway Administration might otherwise realize from the enactment of the bill. At present, the Department of State Planning is advised only in cases of parcels of 3 acres or more; the number of parcels of 3 acres or less is much greater than those of 3 acres or more. In addition, the sale could not be consummated for at least 60 days under this amendment.

The Secretary of State Planning has also indicated that the benefits to accrue from this bill are far overshadowed by increased costs in personnel funds and