"Subtitle 16 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Baltimore City (1969 Edition, being Article 4 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland) sets forth the general provisions relating to and governing the Police Department of Baltimore City. As therein expressly set forth, the Police Department was constituted and established as an agency and instrumentality of the State of Maryland. § 16-2. Thus, House Bill 1129 would have the unprecedented effect of permitting a local subdivision to require that a State agency be subject to that subdivision's own, local collective bargaining ordinances.

The General Assembly has heretofore recognized that members of the Department have problems which are uniquely different from civilian personnel. Consequently, in 1966, the legislature established new grievance procedures for the Department. § 16-12. Other provisions of the subtitle similarly act to protect the rights of these members. There is no evidence to suggest that the present system fails to achieve its intended purpose. Conversely, there is no evidence to suggest that this purpose could be better accomplished by the placement of the Department within the City's Municipal Employee Relations Law.

Placing the Department within the provisions of a collective bargaining act would best be considered if and when the General Assembly should decided [sic] to enact a State-wide employee relations law covering State agencies and other State instrumentalities."

For these reasons, which I still believe to be valid, I have vetoed House Bill 671.

Sincerely,
/s/ Marvin Mandel
Governor

House Bill No. 679 - Malpractice Insurance for Beauty Shops

AN ACT concerning

Health - Cosmetologists

FOR the purpose of providing that beauty shops and