

VETOES

Titles and Messages

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Senate Bill No. 18 - Mental Hygiene Examinations

AN ACT concerning

Mental Hygiene - Cost of Court Ordered Examinations

FOR the purpose of providing for the payment of the cost of court ordered examinations; and generally relating to mental examinations.

May 17, 1976.

Honorable Steny H. Hoyer  
President of the Senate  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 18.

This bill requires the State to assume the cost of court ordered examinations conducted by the Mental Hygiene Administration. At present, the counties are billed for these costs.

The fiscal note prepared by the Department of Fiscal Services indicates that the bill will cost the State over \$1.1 million in Fiscal Year 1977, rising to \$1.5 million in Fiscal Year 1981.

There are no funds in the State budget for Fiscal Year 1977 from which to comply with this bill, and, based upon existing revenue sources, I foresee no reasonable possibility of providing sufficient funds next year. If the General Assembly desires, as a matter of policy, to relieve the subdivisions of this item of expense, it should provide the revenue necessary for the State to discharge the obligation.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 18.

Sincerely,  
Marvin Mandel  
Governor

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