

***We note that the decisions of the circuit court of a single county are not binding throughout the State. However, we believe the Court's discussion of this issue is both instructive and persuasive.

House Bill No. 998 - Interest on Tax Refunds

AN ACT concerning

Taxes - Rate of Interest on Refund

FOR the purpose of providing that the rate of interest on refund of taxes upon final determination of an appeal shall be at the same interest rate as charged for taxes overdue and in arrears; deleting reference to a specific interest rate [[and references to sections of the article]]; and clarifying language.

May 17, 1976.

Honorable John Hanson Eriscoe
 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 998.

The principal purpose of this bill was to change the rate of interest payable on property tax refunds from 6% to the rate which would be charged for overdue taxes, and to provide that the refund would be payable by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. Unfortunately, some poorly drafted amendments were added to the bill, and, as passed, the bill is completely unclear. It now reads as follows:

"Upon final determination of any appeal, any money paid by the taxpayer in excess of the amount properly chargeable under the determination, shall be refunded with interest at the same rate of six per cent. (6%) per annum from the date of payment to the date of refund. The sources of refund shall be as specified in the applicable provisions of §§ 213 to 219, inclusive, of this article interest which taxes bear which are determined to be overdue and in arrears for the period that they are overdue and in arrears, as provided in this article. The