AN ACT concerning

      Motor Vehicles – Nonresident Registration

FOR the purpose of requiring certain nonresidents to
     obtain a nonresident's temporary registration; and
     redefining "resident" for purposes of the Maryland
     Vehicle Law.

                                             May 28, 1977
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
1198.

    As introduced, this bill redefined the word
"resident" for purposes of the Motor Vehicle Laws,
defined the word "domicile", and provided certain
requirements with respect to the registration of vehicles
by residents and non-residents.   Its purpose, I am
advised, was to aid in the enforcement of vehicle
registration requirements, identify temporary residents,
provide for a temporary registration and clarify the
definition of "resident".

    Apparently on the last day of the session, an
amendment was added to the bill that deleted from the
bill and the law the term "resident", and substituted in
its place, in §11-149 of the Transportation Article, the
term "person required to register a vehicle." As a
result of that amendment, "resident" would no longer be a
defined term in the Vehicle Laws.

    Section 11-139 of the Transportation Article defines
a "nonresident" as "any person who is not a resident, as
that term is defined in this subtitle." Elimination of
the defined term "resident" obviously makes that
definition of "nonresident" meaningless.

    A computer search of the Transportation Article
reveals that the terms "resident" and "nonresident"
appear in 26 places in eight different titles of the
Vehicle Laws. They are used in provisions concerning
special identification cards, age of majority cards,
reciprocity, titling and registration, driver licensing,
alcohol enforcement, judgment law, citation and arrest
procedures, and penalties.   A list of the sections
containing these two terms, and their subject matter, is
attached to and should be considered a part of this Veto