

FOR the purpose of creating a hostel system in Maryland; setting forth possible operation methods for the hostel system; and generally relating to hostels in Maryland.

May 26, 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 1922.

This bill authorizes the Department of Economic and Community Development to set up, and presumably to operate, hostels in Maryland. A hostel is defined in the bill as an overnight lodging facility providing minimum accommodations.

The bill requires that a fee be charged to guests, and sets forth certain guidelines for the types of services that may be provided and for the operation of the hostels.

Although there may be a need for some of these facilities, particularly for young people travelling through the State, I do not believe that the State should be in the business of innkeeper. There are numerous small motels and inns throughout the State that can provide this type of service at reasonable rates; and, if there is a need for more of them, they can be established privately.

The fiscal note prepared by the Department of Fiscal Services estimates that each hostel would cost the State over \$200,000 in initial capital expenditures and about \$80,000 in net operating expenses. In light of the many other and higher priority calls upon State resources, this type of expenditure is entirely unjustified.

For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 1922.

Sincerely,
Marvin Mandel
Governor
