

The bicameralism mandated by Article I, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution literally has its origin in Article III, Section 1 of the Maryland Constitution, and their common purpose is that each House be a check upon the other, and prevent the passage of hasty and ill-conceived legislation. Maryland Committee For Fair Representation v. Tawes, 229 Md. 406, 410-414 (1962). Thus, observing that the respective houses of the Maryland General Assembly enjoy functions which, in pertinent part, are wholly analogous to those Congressional functions of which the Atkins Court took note, we find the Court's reasoning on this question to be wholly applicable to the Maryland environment. Indeed, while the Court observed that it was not going beyond a delegation of authority to a single House and examining the propriety of a delegation to a committee, Atkins v. United States, supra, 556 F.2d at 1064, its logic compels us to reach the same conclusion at the committee level. Simply put, the rejection of a proposed administrative rule, regulation or standard is not the passage of new law, is wholly analogous to the role which committees perform with respect to proposed legislation, and consequently does not offend Article III, Sec. 1. Thus, in our opinion, House Bill 619 does not, at the very least, clearly offend Article III, Sec. 1 of the Constitution of Maryland any more than does a committee's rejection of proposed legislation.

B. The Presentment Clauses and the Gubernatorial Veto. In pertinent part, Article III, Sec. 30, of the Maryland Constitution establishes the duty and authority of the General Assembly to present enacted bills to the Governor, viz.,"

"Every bill, when passed by the General Assembly, and sealed with the Great Seal, shall be presented by the presiding officer of the house in which it originated to the Governor for his approval. All bills passed during a regular or special session shall be presented to the Governor for his approval no later than 20 days after adjournment. Within 30 days after presentment, if the Governor approves the bill, he shall sign the same in the presence of the presiding officers and Chief Clerks of the Senate and House of Delegates."

This provision is complimented by Article II, Sec. 17, which sets the duty and authority of the Governor to act with respect to a presented bill. Hamilton v. State, ex. rel. Wells, 61 Md. 14, 28-29 (1883). In pertinent part, Section 17 provides:

"To guard against hasty or partial legislation and encroachment of the Legislative Department upon the co-ordinate Executive and Judicial Departments, every Bill which shall have passed