

must be clearly defined, however, and probably should include some reasonable time within which the committees must act, if they are going to act at all."

Unpublished Opinion of the Attorney General (Tenn. 1975). See also, Schwartz, supra; Stewart, supra.

IV.

THE NECESSARY AND PROPER CLAUSE

Maryland Constitution, Article III, Section 56, provides:

"The General Assembly shall have power to pass all such Laws as may be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the powers vested, by this Constitution, in any Department, or office of the Government, and the duties imposed upon them thereby."

Relying upon the landmark decision in McCulloch v. Maryland, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 316 (1819), the Atkins majority concluded:

"The necessary and proper clause authorizes Congress 'to exercise its best judgment in the selection of measures, to carry into execution the constitutional powers of government,' 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) at 20, and 'avail itself of experience, to exercise its reason, and to accommodate its legislation to circumstances,' 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) at 415.

"Where there has been no violation of separation-of-powers principles or of any specific provision of the Constitution, the necessary and proper clause can authorize a given method of obtaining a desired result, as well as ground substantive provision (as in McCulloch)."

Atkins v. United States, supra, 556 F.2d at 1061.

In our view, this rationale provides even greater support for the authority of the General Assembly of Maryland to enact a legislative veto provision such as House Bill 619; for, as we have previously noted, the legislative authority which the sovereign People have delegated to the General Assembly is, significantly unlike that which they have delegated to the Congress, plenary. Thus, although it is amply there, we need not look to the necessary and proper clause or any other provision of the Constitution of Maryland in order to ground a substantive act of the General