

Affirmative: 0

Negative: 45

(See Roll Call No. 60)

The President announced the veto was sustained.

June 1, 1982

The Honorable James Clark, Jr.
Senate of Maryland
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear President Clark:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 240.

The original intent of the bill, which is evident from the language of the bill as introduced, was to exempt operators of certain emergency vehicles from liability for negligent, but not malicious or grossly negligent, acts or omissions while performing emergency services. The bill would have further provided that the responsibility for those acts would be shifted to the owners or lessees of emergency vehicles, including the political subdivisions of the State. I wholeheartedly support the original intent of the bill.

The bill as originally drafted and as amended has given rise to certain severe interpretive problems which the Attorney General believes will unnecessarily perplex both courts and litigants. A copy of the Attorney General's letter of advice to me is attached. I agree with the Attorney General that the enactment of this bill may not assure that its original intent will be given effect after it has been tested through the judicial process. For that reason, I have decided to veto Senate Bill 240.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

June 1, 1982

REVISED LETTER

Honorable Harry Hughes
Governor of Maryland
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Re: House Bill 155 and