

A joint resolution may, of course, become law or have the force and effect of law if the Constitution has expressly provided for this result. See Art. II, 21A (Governor's Salary). Art. III, Sec. 5 (Legislative Districting) and Sec. 15 (Legislative Compensation). By way of contrast, we have expressed serious doubts about the legal effect of the joint resolution establishing judicial salaries inasmuch as the passage of this resolution is governed by statute, Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, Sec. 1-708, rather than the State Constitution. See letter of May 22, 1980 from Attorney General Sachs to Governor Hughes concerning Senate Bill 669. We still entertain serious doubts that in the absence of a constitutional amendment, a joint resolution can in any way affect the exercise of the Legislature's constitutional power to increase or decrease items in the Budget relating to the Judiciary, including the salaries of judges. Although the use of a resolution to establish judicial salaries does not raise any issue of infringing on the veto power of the Governor, Art. II, Sec. 17, who does not, in any event, have a veto over the Budget Bill, Art. III, Sec. 52(b), establishing school board resident districts by joint resolution would clearly infringe on the Governor's power to veto measures having the force and effect of law.

Very truly yours,
 Stephen H. Sachs
 Attorney General

House Bill No. 840

AN ACT concerning

Montgomery County Board of Education -
 Residence Districts
 MC 407-84

~~FOR the purpose of providing for the establishment by the Montgomery County Delegates and Senators of residence districts from which certain members of the Montgomery County Board of Education will be elected, providing for periodic redistricting by the Montgomery County Delegates and Senators,~~

FOR the purpose of providing for the establishment of a procedure for the adoption by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly of residence districts from which certain members of the Montgomery County Board of Education will be elected; providing for a procedure for the periodic redistricting of the residence districts by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly; providing for the forfeiture of office under certain circumstances; and generally relating to election of members of the Montgomery County Board of Education.