

Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 176.

This bill provides that State laws pertaining to regulation of the purchase, sale, taxation, transfer, manufacture, repair, ownership, possession and transportation of firearms and ammunition are to preempt the laws and ordinances of local political subdivisions.

Senate Bill 88, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 28, 1985, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 176.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

House Bill No. 176

AN ACT concerning

Preemption - Weapons and Ammunition

FOR the purpose of declaring the intent of the State of Maryland to preempt the field of regulation of certain enumerated weapons and ammunition and certain activities involving the enumerated weapons and ammunition; providing that the State of Maryland preempts the rights of counties, municipal corporations, and special taxing districts to regulate certain activities involving the enumerated weapons and ammunition; providing that counties, municipal corporations, and special taxing districts may regulate certain activities involving the enumerated weapons under certain circumstances; providing that this Act shall have certain effect as of a certain date; and generally providing for the preemption of weapons and ammunition.

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 36H
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1982 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland finds and declares that the reservation of the regulation of some forms of weaponry and ammunition is necessary to preserve the peace, safety, and health of the State; now, therefore,