- 2. On April 2, 1985, it was reported favorably by the Finance Committee with two amendments. On April 3, 1985, the Committee amendments and favorable report were adopted.
- 3. Senator Yeager offered one amendment from the House. The amendment was adopted on April 3, 1985.
- 4. The bill passed the Senate on third reading on April 4, 1985.
- 5. On April 6, 1985, the House refused to concur in the Senate Amendments and requested the Senate recede. The Senate did not recede and a Conference Committee was appointed. The House appointed Delegates Devlin, Koch and Smith. The Senate appointed Senators O'Reilly, Bromwell and Denis.
- 6. On April 18, 1985, the Conference Committee Report was adopted by the House and the bill was passed on third reading.
- 7. On April 18, 1985, the Conference Committee Report was adopted by the Senate and the bill was passed on third reading.

From this journal chronology, it is clear that the bill was validly enacted by the General Assembly. See Art. III, Section 27, Md. Const. Compare 1981 House Bill 1522. \*/ Thus, the bill may be printed and presented to the Governor. The only remaining question is how should the bill read so as to give full effect to the intent of the General Assembly?

The bill as passed by the House would have amended § 9-913(h)(2) of the State Government Article to read: "WITH EACH PLOT, THE [MARYLAND VETERANS] COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE, WITHOUT CHARGE, A GRAVE LINER." The first Senate Finance Committee amendment was to the title of the bill. The second amendment of the Committee inserted after "LINER" the phrase "NOT TO EXCEED \$50 IN COST." The Yeager amendment added after "COST" the phrase "PLUS AN ANNUAL INCREASE OF NO MORE THAN 5 PERCENT TO ALLOW FOR INFLATION."

The Conference Committee Report on House Bill 949 reads as follows:

- "(1) That Amendment No. 1 by the Senate Finance Committee be adopted.
  - (2) That Senator Yeager's amendment be adopted.
- (3) That Amendment No. 2 by the Senate Finance Committee be rejected, and on page 2 of the bill, in line 2, after "LINER" insert "NOT TO EXCEED \$55 IN COST."

The understanding and intention of the legislators determine the meaning of their enactments. <u>Mayor and City Council of</u> Baltimore v. Perrin, 178 Md. 101 (1940). Thus, the cardinal rule