feature products such as hardware, groceries, and auto parts. The bill would set a precedent that could hinder competition in these markets.

Lastly, the State encourages new businesses as a means to enhance local economies and provide employment. House Bill 909, however, promotes a negative economic policy that would send out conflicting signals to the business community.

For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 909.

Sincerely, William Donald Schaefer Governor

House Bill No. 909

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages (Off-Sale Stores)

PG 325-94

FOR the purpose of specifying in Prince George's County a square foot limitation on the size of off-sale alcoholic beverages stores or portions of stores; defining terms; and generally relating to the square footage size of stores that sell for off-sale consumption in Prince George's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

Section 53(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

Section 53(m)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages

53.

- (a) This section applies only in Prince George's County.
- (M) (I) IN THIS SUBSECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.