

This bill provides that fines imposed by municipalities constitute a judgment in favor of the municipality. Further, if the fine remains unpaid for 30 days, the judgment would be enforceable in the same manner and to the same extent as other civil judgments for money, unless the court has suspended the payment of the fine. Normally, I would have had 50 days in which to consider the legislation. Because of its early presentment, however, I have had only 24 post-session days to evaluate House Bill 766. This period has proven insufficient to weigh the legislation's legal and constitutional sufficiency, the effect of potential conflicting amendments, and comments from agencies and the public regarding policy considerations.

Fortunately, Senate Bill 435 was also passed by the General Assembly and accomplishes the same purpose. Senate Bill 435 was presented at the normal time, giving me the full 50 days to evaluate the legislation. Therefore, I will be able to consider the issue and decide whether to sign or veto Senate Bill 435 before May 28, 1991.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

House Bill No. 766

AN ACT concerning

Municipal Infractions

FOR the purpose of establishing that fines imposed by the District Court for certain municipal infractions constitute a judgment for the municipality; establishing that if a fine remains unpaid for 30 days the judgment shall be enforceable in the same manner and extent as other civil judgments for money unless certain conditions exist; providing that a court may order a person to abate certain violations; clarifying language; and generally relating to municipal infractions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 23A – Corporations – Municipal
Section 3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1990 Replacement Volume)

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