Veto No. 19

SB 835

November 26, 1975

To the Honorable, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

I return herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 835, Printer's No. 911, entitled "An act amending the act of July 28, 1953 (P.L.723, No.230), entitled, as amended, 'Second Class County Code,' permitting advertisement of the titles and summarizations in lieu of the entire text of proposed ordinances."

This bill is another in a series which purports to permit the advertisement of the titles and the summarizations of ordinances in lieu of the entire text thereof.

I have recently expressed my opposition to this type of summary publication of ordinances. In prior messages, I have noted that I appreciate the cost involved in publishing ordinances in newspapers, but I believe it to be one cost of good government.

One of my principle objections to summary publication of ordinances is that in all cases there is no good record keeping system for ordinances in all classes of political subdivisions. Perhaps if a good system of record keeping were developed, then perhaps summary publication of the ordinances would be adequate. Accordingly, I have directed the Department of Community Affairs and the Department of Justice to work with local government officials to explore this area of concern.

For these reasons, I return Senate Bill No. 835 without my signature.

MILTON J. SHAPP