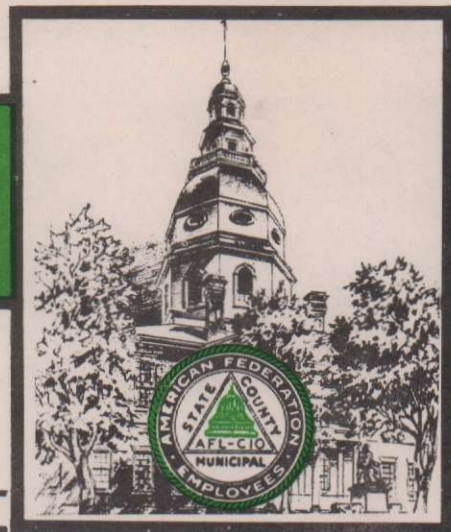


Annapolis Report

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MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY

Council 67 Director Crofoot and Local 44 President Ray Clarke both testified in favor of HB320, introduced by Webster (D-Baltimore), which would make January 15th the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King an official Maryland holiday. Director Crofoot told the delegates of Dr. King's devotion to the welfare of public employees, and Clarke testified about the extra personal leave day negotiated by Local 44 for Baltimore City employees for Dr. King's birthday.

EARLY RETIREMENT FOR CORRECTION & TOLL OFFICERS

MSEC Director Johns, and AFSCME Council 67 Director Ernie Crofoot testified in favor of HB17, which would extend to Correctional and Toll Facilities Officers an early retirement program similar to the program now enjoyed by the State Police. AFSCME told the Committee that there were other bills on the same subject before the legislature and that bills offering the same benefits have been introduced every year for the past six years. It was suggested that all the proposals be given to the subcommittee on retirement so that the subcommittee and AFSCME officials could work out the details. AFSCME's spokesman went on to say, "There has been enough outstanding evidence to support this proposal. I feel all similar proposals should be brought before the subcommittee in order to get this needed Legislation passed." It was also noted that James Jordan, Commissioner of Corrections, is an enthusiastic supporter of this proposal.

DEFERRED COMPENSATION FOR RETIREMENT

AFSCME also testified on HB246 which would allow state employees deferred compensation for retirement purposes. AFSCME testified in favor of this bill. Testimony is being prepared for this week's hearings on SB224, SB225, and SB226 before the Senate Finance Committee.

PERSONNEL OFFICERS

AFSCME will testify in favor of SB224. The bill will, hopefully, increase uniformity in the actions of personnel officers by placing them under the control of the Department of Personnel.

EXECUTIVE CAREER SERVICE

Also, AFSCME Legislative Representatives will testify against SB225 which establishes an Executive Career Service as a new classification, in addition to the present classified and unclassified services.

SICK LEAVE

AFSCME will also oppose SB226, which reduces sick leave to 15 days a year. AFSCME is unalterably opposed to this action and a major effort to defeat this bill is being launched by MSEC and Council 67.