

Office of the Vermont Secretary of State
Vermont State Archives

**Veto Message: Governor Hartness
1921 (H.329)**

An act to amend section 7427 of the General Laws, relating to registers' fees and fixing fees of County Clerks.

STATE OF VERMONT
Executive Department.
Montpelier, Vt., March 31, 1921.

To the House of Representatives:

I have the honor to return, without my approval, House bill, entitled

H. 329. An act to amend section 7427 of the General Laws, relating to registers' fees and fixing fees of County Clerks,

For the reasons that the provisions of this bill in a large measure reverse the policy of the state to pay its public servants salaries commensurate with their service without fees. The principle involved in this method was settled upon some years ago after most careful consideration, and I am not convinced that a change should be made at this time.

I have already approved a bill increasing the salaries of our probate judges to an amount equaling \$8150 annually, and our county clerks to an amount equaling \$4100. I have also approved legislation granting probate judges the right to employ stenographic reporters at the expense of the state. If I were to approve this bill, I believe the salaries of probate judges, together with the fees which would accrue to them, would equal, in some instances even exceed, the salaries paid our supreme court justices. This is not right.

JAMES HARTNESS,
Governor

**Governor's Veto Sustained
H.329, 1921**

The Governor's veto was sustained in the House:
Yeas 4 Nays 152

Sources: *Journal of the House*, March 31, 1921 (page 781)