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**Veto Message: Governor Weeks
1929 (S.65)**

An act to amend section 6558 of the General Laws, as amended by No. 204 of the Acts of 1921 and by No. 135 of the Acts of 1923, relating to the penalty for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

STATE OF VERMONT
Executive Department.
Montpelier, Vt., March 15, 1929.

Which had been returned by His Excellency, the Governor, without his approval, and with his objections in writing as follows:

To the Honorable Senate:

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

S. 65. An act to amend section 6558 of the General Laws, as amended by No. 204 of the Acts of 1921 and by No. 135 of the Acts of 1923, relating to the penalty for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

I do this because it is the purpose and intent of this bill to reduce the minimum penalty for violations of our laws relative to the manufacture of, or dealing in, intoxicating liquor, from \$300 to \$50.

However, under our present law, namely, General Laws, section 7301, if in the opinion of the court before whom a case is tried a fine of \$50 should be imposed, this in effect can be done provided the respondent is placed on probation for such a period of time as to the court seems proper.

This bill, Senate 65, would permit the court to impose a minimum fine of \$50 without putting the respondent on probation, and to this extent would decrease the penalty for violations of this class.

Therefore the intent and purpose of this bill is contrary to the policy of our federal laws as exemplified in recent action of Congress approved by the President of the United States March 4, 1929, and so is legislation counter to our national policy which is to increase the penalty for violations of this nature and not to decrease same. In my opinion our state should not follow such a course.

JOHN E. WEEKS,
Governor.

Governor's Veto Sustained
S.65, 1929

The Governor's veto was sustained in the Senate:
Yeas 0 Nays 26

Sources: : *Journal of the Senate*, March 15, 1929 (pages 375-377)