

1 THE CHAIRMAN: The difficulty there is that
2 Baltimore City's experience has been one of getting its
3 express powers only after great effort. There have been
4 many, many times where delay has caused a great deal of
5 change in the immediate circumstance which has worked ad-
6 versely.

7 That is, there have been all kinds of changes
8 in values of land, changes in immediate circumstance,
9 which by taking the other approach and giving the broad
10 grant and only having the Legislature take it away, you
11 give to the local home rule government a means of going
12 ahead and acting immediately and directly to accomplish
13 a purpose where there is need for action.

14 That delay factor, it seems to me, is one of the
15 arguments against giving the power to the Legislature to
16 grant to the home rule unit. That can be a very real
17 delay and hardship or may even be a matter going so far as
18 to defeat the very purpose by the time the Legislature
19 gets around to acting.

20 MR. MELVIN: I wasn't aware they had any great
21 difficulties along these lines.