

May 17, 2007

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House  
State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 140 - *Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations - Duties and Sunset Extension*.

This bill expands the scope of the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations' study and reporting function to include: 1) the potential development of a universal vaccine purchasing system to increase access to necessary vaccines in the State; 2) the availability of options to improve provider reimbursements for the cost of administering immunizations; and 3) an update on the use of thimerosal in vaccines. The bill also adds a representative from a health insurance carrier to the membership of the Commission, and extends its sunset date from May 31, 2008, to May 31, 2010.

Senate Bill 105, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 140.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley  
Governor