

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 297 - *Harford County - Alcoholic Beverages Licensees - Age of Employees*.

This bill prohibits an alcoholic beverages licensee in Harford County from employing a person under the age of 21 years to act as a bartender or to serve alcoholic beverages at a permanent full-service bar and provides an exception to the prohibition. The bill also authorizes a licensee to employ a person at least 18 years old to serve alcoholic beverages while acting as a waiter or waitress. Finally, the bill authorizes a licensee to employ a person at least 16 years old to act as a bartender's assistant.

Senate Bill 189, 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 297.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor