

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 1247 - *Postretirement Health Benefits Trust Fund - Clarification*.

This bill requires the transfer to the Postretirement Health Benefits Trust Fund of all future budgetary allocations for the purpose of reducing the State's accrued liabilities associated with health benefits provided to State retirees. The bill also authorizes the transfer of funds allocated in the fiscal 2007 and 2008 budgets for retiree health liabilities to the trust fund and allows payments from the trust fund in future years to pay the ongoing costs of providing health benefits to State retirees.

Senate Bill 780, 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 1247.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor