

May 19, 2009

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 977 – *State Retirement and Pension System – Compliance with Federal Tax Provisions*.

This bill makes technical changes to State pension law to reflect recent changes to the federal Internal Revenue Code. This bill prohibits the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System from using forfeitures of benefits by a member or former member of the several systems to pay benefit increases. Furthermore, it provides that the State Retirement Agency may make direct rollover payments to eligible retirement plans specified by the designated beneficiaries of a member of the State Retirement and Pension System.

Senate Bill 592, 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 977.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor