

May 22, 2012

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 153 – *Creation of a State Debt – Qualified Zone Academy Bonds*. Senate Bill 153 would authorize the creation of a state debt in the amount of \$15,324,000, the proceeds to be used as grants to the Interagency Committee on School Construction and the Maryland State Department of Education for certain development or improvement purposes authorized under the federal Qualified Zone Academy Bond (“QZAB”) program.

Senate Bill 153 is a supplementary appropriation bill, and pursuant to Article III, Section 52(8) of the Maryland Constitution may not be finally acted upon by the House and Senate prior to final action on the Budget Bill. Senate Bill 153 was passed by the General Assembly on March 29, 2012; the Budget Bill passed on April 9, 2012. For that reason, I have been advised by the Attorney General that Senate Bill 153 should be vetoed. Also pursuant to that advice, I sponsored and the General Assembly passed, similar legislation in the recent Special Session (Senate Bill 1303 of the 2012 Special Session), which will be signed today. Therefore, the original purpose of Senate Bill 153 has been satisfied.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 153.

Sincerely,

Governor