

May 15, 2014

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House  
H-101 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 261 – *Alcoholic Beverages – Hard Cider – Definition*.

The bill alters the definition of “hard cider” to include beverages derived primarily from pears, or pear concentrate and water, and containing at least one-half of 1% and less than 7% of alcohol by volume.

Senate Bill 161, 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 261.

Sincerely,

Governor Martin O'Malley