

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 861 – *Agriculture – Easements – Renewable Energy Generation Facilities*.

The bill requires an easement, approved for a specified purchase after a specified date, to authorize the landowner to request approval to use the land subject to the easement for renewable energy generation under specified circumstances. In addition, it prohibits the installation of specified wind turbines exceeding specified heights in specified areas of the State and requiring a specified lease executed by a landowner and a specified facility owner to include provisions related to the removal of a specified facility under specified circumstances.

Senate Bill 259, 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 861.

Sincerely,

Governor Martin O'Malley