May 26, 2006

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 563 - *Baltimore City* - *Orphans' Court Judges* - *Pensions*.

This bill increases the annual retirement benefit payments to retired judges and Chief Judges of the Orphans' Court for Baltimore City.

Senate Bill 287, which was passed by the General Assembly and allowed to go into effect without my signature, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 563.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Governor