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 777 - *State Retirement and Pension System - Military Service - Members and Former Members*.

This bill provides that members or former members of a State system who are entitled to a vested retirement allowance may apply for service credit in a State system for military service; prohibits retirees from applying for service credit in a State system for military service; and provides that the military service that specified members or former members of a State system receive is applied toward their retirement allowance using a specified accrual rate.

Senate Bill 866, 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 777.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Governor