

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 1015 - *Maryland Health Care Commission - Certificate of Need - Health Care Facilities*.

This bill alters the level of capital expenditures made by or on behalf of a hospital or a health care facility other than a hospital that requires a certificate of need; provides that a certificate of need is not required for a capital expenditure by a hospital or a plant donated to a hospital, under specified circumstances; and alters an exemption from the requirement to obtain a certificate of need to close a hospital or part of a hospital.

Senate Bill 832, 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 1015.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor