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 1217 – *Criminal Law - Credit Card Crimes - Use of Affidavit by Credit Cardholder in Criminal Case or Juvenile Proceeding*.

This bill authorizes in a criminal case or juvenile proceeding involving a violation of a credit card crime the introduction of the affidavit of a lawful credit cardholder as substantive evidence that the credit card or credit card number was taken, used, or possessed without the authorization of the credit cardholder; and requires the State to provide a specified notice to the defendant within a specified time period before a specified proceeding.

Senate Bill 468, 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 1217.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Governor