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 1722 - *Public Safety Employees Killed in Performance of Duties - Death Benefits*.

This bill alters the amount of the death benefit for law enforcement officers, correctional officers, firefighters and rescue squad members, and members of the office of the State Fire Marshal who are killed or die in the performance of duties.

Senate Bill 388, 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 1722.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Governor