

May 17, 2007

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 282 - *State Board of Physicians - Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation*.

This bill extends the termination date of the State Board of Physicians (MBP) from July 1, 2007, to July 1, 2013, and specifies that the next program evaluation of the board shall be a full review without the necessity of a preliminary evaluation. Other major components of the bill include: 1) changes to the Board's use of peer reviewers; 2) requirements regarding use of nonprofits for rehabilitation services and eligibility; 3) changes to the fee set-aside for all fees collected by MBP which reduce the diversion of physician licensure fees for loan repayment and scholarship funding; 4) making medical malpractice settlement information available upon request rather than as part of a licensee's online profile; and 5) requiring designation of a pool of administrative law judges to hear board complaints.

Senate Bill 255, 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 282.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor