May 17, 2007

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.

President of the Senate State House Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 573 - *Natural Resources - Forest Conservation - Net Tract Area*.

This bill alters the definition of "net tract area" for forest conservation requirements and forest mitigation bank credits to include specified forested areas of specified tracts of land partially within 100-year floodplains or wetlands under specified circumstances.

House Bill 588, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 573.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley Governor