May 22, 2008

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 314 – Garrett County – County Commissioners – Agricultural Districts.

This bill requires the Board of Garrett County Commissioners to adopt specified rules, regulations, and procedures in accordance with specified requirements for the establishment of agricultural districts in Garrett County. This bill also prohibits specified rules, regulations, and procedures from requiring a natural gas rights owner or lessee to subordinate its interest to the Commissioners' interest under specified circumstances. Further, the bill prohibits the purchase of specified easements in Garrett County under specified circumstances.

Senate Bill 260, 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 314.

Sincerely,

Governor