

May 27, 2016

The Honorable Thomas V. Miller, Jr.
Senate President
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed Senate Bill 234 – *Agreements to Defend or Pay the Cost of Defense – Void*.

This bill provides that specified provisions in a contract or an agreement relating to architectural, engineering, inspecting, or surveying services that purport to require the promisor or indemnitor to defend or pay the costs of defending specified promisees or indemnitees against liability for specified damages are against public policy and are void and unenforceable under specified circumstances, and applies the Act prospectively.

House Bill 871, 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 234.

Sincerely,

Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.