

May 25, 2018

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed House Bill 1392 – *Health – Emergency Evaluatees and Involuntarily Admitted or Committed Individuals – Procedures*.

This bill requires a health care provider to disclose legal and medical records (including mental health records) without the authorization of an individual to a public defender who states in writing that the Office of the Public Defender (OPD) represents the individual in an involuntary admission or release proceeding under the Health-General Article or a commitment or release proceeding under the Criminal Procedure Article. The bill also requires facilities to notify OPD about the admission of an emergency evaluatee or a change in admission status.

Senate Bill 864, 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 1392.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor