

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker of the House
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Madam Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed House Bill 488 – *Forestry – Mel Noland Fellowship Program – Establishment*.

This bill 1) establishes the Mel Noland Fellowship Program within the Department of Natural Resources to support students seeking careers in fields relating to natural resources; and 2) renames the Mel Noland Woodlands Incentive Fund and expands its uses to include funding the fellowship program.

This bill also requires that, beginning in Fiscal Year 2021, the Governor must appropriate, and the Department of Natural Resources must direct, certain funds on an annual basis. Additionally, this bill requires that the Department of Natural Resources, and a managing organization, must select two fellows in support of their matriculation in a higher education natural resources field; and that each fellow must receive from the fund an annual stipend of a certain amount.

Senate Bill 467, 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 488.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor