

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 1249 – *Pilot Program – Alleged Rape, Sexual Offense, or Child Sexual Abuse – HIV Postexposure Prophylaxis*.

This bill establishes the Pilot Program for Preventing HIV for Rape Victims to prevent HIV infection for victims of an alleged rape or sexual offense; or victims of alleged child sexual abuse. This bill requires the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention to administer the program.

This bill also requires 1) a qualifying victim to be provided with a full course of treatment and follow-up care for postexposure prophylaxis for the prevention of HIV, at the victim's request, and as prescribed; 2) treatment to be provided free of charge under specified circumstances; 3) the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to reimburse a physician, qualified healthcare provider, or hospital for services and treatments provided; and 4) that the total amount paid by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board may not exceed \$750,000 annually. Finally, this bill terminates September 30, 2022.

Senate Bill 657, 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 1249.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor