

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
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 694 – *Commercial Law – Credit Card Processors – Merchant Processing Agreements*.

This bill prohibits a credit card processor from 1) assessing or charging a fee, fine, or penalty of more than \$500 if a business entity cancels a “merchant processing agreement” before the expiration of the initial term; or 2) assessing a fee, fine, or penalty if a business entity terminates the merchant processing agreement after the expiration of the initial term unless the parties enter into a separate renewal agreement.

This bill requires a merchant processing agreement to disclose specified information, and authorizes the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to investigate any complaints received.

House Bill 777, 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 694.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor