

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 705 – *Organ Donation – Prohibition on Discrimination by Insurer and Unpaid Leave*.

This bill entitles an eligible employee to unpaid organ donation leave for 1) up to 60 business days in any 12-month period to serve as an organ donor and 2) up to 30 business days in any 12-month period to donate bone marrow. This bill applies to employers with at least 15 employees, and requires the Commissioner of Labor and Industry within the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to enforce the organ donation leave provisions.

This bill also prohibits 1) an insurer of life, disability, or long-term care insurance from taking specified actions based solely on an applicant or individual's status as an organ donor; 2) an insurer from prohibiting an applicant or individual from donating all or part of an organ as a condition of insurance.

House Bill 1284, 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 705.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor