

May 28, 2021

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

Dear Speaker Jones:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed House Bill 2 – *Maryland Environmental Service Reform Act of 2021*.

This bill makes changes to the governance and administration of the Maryland Environmental Service (MES), including altering the composition, selection, and standards of conduct for the MES Board of Directors; adding new spending and contracting restrictions and requiring independent evaluations of MES finances and board actions; renaming the Director as the Executive Director and requiring the Executive Director to appoint a diversity officer; instituting new training and required policies; establishing new requirements and standards for holding board meetings; and clarifying and modifying the application of specified collective bargaining provisions and procedures for MES employees, including oversight by the State Labor Relations Board.

Senate Bill 2, 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 2.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor