

May 26, 2006

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House  
State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 59 - *Criminal Law - Crimes of Violence - Child Abuse*.

This bill adds the crime of child abuse in the first degree to the list of crimes of violence for which specified enhanced penalties are applied to specified offenders.

Senate Bill 509, 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 59.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor