

April 7, 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 156 – *State Employees and Retirees – State Prescription Drug Benefit Plan – Co-Payments*.

This bill requires the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program to offer a voluntary mail-order option for prescription drugs, under which the maximum co-payment for each 90-day prescription may not exceed \$20.

Senate Bill 430, 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 156.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor