

May 17, 2007

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 770 - *Maryland Transit Administration - Continuation of Passenger Railroad Service on Amtrak and CSX Lines*.

This bill requires the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) to continue to operate the Amtrak Line between Perryville and Penn Station in Baltimore at an equivalent or greater level of service than was provided on May 1, 1991, and the CSX line between Frederick and Point of Rocks at an equivalent or greater level of service than was provided on December 17, 2001. The bill also prohibits MTA from closing a station on any route before June 30, 2008, and prohibits MTA from closing a station on any route until a public hearing has been held. MTA may only close a station in a four and one-half month window, specifically between six weeks and six months after the public hearing.

Senate Bill 438, 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 770.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor