

Titles and Messages

Senate Bill No. 10 - Public Assistance Monies

AN ACT concerning

Public Assistance - Monies Guaranteed to Recipient

FOR the purpose of providing that all assistance granted to families with dependent children, old age assistance, public assistance to the needy blind, aid to permanently and totally disabled and general public assistance programs shall not be transferable or assignable nor subject to any operation of the law which would deprive the recipient of the assistance; and consolidating the provisions of Section 73 of Article 88A and Section 21 of Article 30 in the new Section 16A of Article 88A.

May 31, 1974.

Honorable William S. James
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 10.

This bill is intended to provide that assistance granted under the various public assistance programs shall not be assignable or subject to attachment by or on behalf of creditors.

I have been advised by the Secretary of Employment and Social Services that such assistance is already protected from the claims of creditors by virtue of federal regulation, and that Senate Bill 10 is not necessary to achieve that end. There is, in addition, a substantial defect in the wording of the bill, which may render the bill nugatory in any event.

The bill repeals existing laws exempting old age assistance and assistance for the blind from the claims of creditors, and adds a new section 16A to Article 88A, which provides that assistance granted under certain