

May 26, 2004

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 4 – *Regulation and Acquisition of Nonprofit Health Entities*.

This bill extends the statute of limitations to 3 years for specified criminal violations under the Insurance Article. It alters the purpose of provisions of law, relating to nonprofit health service plans, and alters specified provisions of law relating to the regulation and acquisition of nonprofit health entities. It also alters the mission of a nonprofit health service plan, and requires board members of a nonprofit health service plan to act in a specified manner in furtherance of the mission of a nonprofit health service plan.

House Bill 341, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 11, 2004, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 4.

Very truly yours,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 4

AN ACT concerning

Regulation and Acquisition of Nonprofit Health ~~Service Plans~~ Entities

FOR the purpose of extending the statute of limitations for a certain time period for certain criminal violations under the Insurance Article; altering the purpose of certain provisions of law relating to nonprofit health service plans; altering certain provisions of law relating to the regulation and acquisition of certain nonprofit health ~~service plans~~ entities; altering the mission of a nonprofit health service plan; altering the manner in which a nonprofit health service plan must develop certain goals, objectives, and strategies; providing that a certain charter and the laws, rules, and regulations of the jurisdiction of domicile of a certain entity supercede and take precedence over certain requirements under certain circumstances; altering the standards the Maryland Insurance Commissioner must use to issue a certificate of authority; requiring the Commissioner to consider a certain entity's inability to comply with certain requirements in determining whether to issue or renew the certificate of authority of a nonprofit health service plan; altering the applicability of certain statutory requirements for a board of directors of a nonprofit health service plan; requiring certain board members of a nonprofit health service plan to act in a certain manner consistent with in furtherance of the mission of a nonprofit health service plan;