

VETOES

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1990.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Certification Agency, in consultation with the General Assembly, shall initiate a study of the Minority Business Enterprise Program to evaluate the Program's continued compliance with the requirements of the Croson decision and any subsequent Federal or constitutional requirements. The study shall also evaluate race-neutral programs and other methods that can be used to address the needs of minority businesses. The final report on the study shall be submitted to the Legislative Policy Committee of the General Assembly prior to November 1, 1994, so that the General Assembly may review the report prior to the 1995 Session.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1990. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 1995, and with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

May 25, 1990

The Honorable R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 29.

This bill would create an advisory council to assist and advise the Maryland Energy and Assistance Program on procedures governing energy services for program participants.

Because the intent of this legislation is admirable, I commend the sponsors of House Bill 29. I, too, believe that seeking input from advocacy groups is important in the development of public policy. However, I feel that the advisory function created by this legislation is already being met due to the active relationship that the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) has with many advisory and advocate groups. Among these are the Energy Advocates, which the MEAP staff meets with on a monthly basis. MEAP also maintains its own planning advisory committee comprised of representatives of MEAP administering agencies, energy advocates, utility and oil heat industry representatives, and other related nonprofit organizations. Finally, an Oil