May 26, 1977

Honorable Steny H. Hoyer 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 418.

This bill authorizes a pharmacist to dispense a drug product of generic equivalency when filling certain prescriptions under certain conditions.

House Bill 667 which was enacted by the General Assembly and signed by Lieutenant Governor Blair Lee III, in his capacity as Acting Governor on May 26, 1977, accomplishes the same purpose. In addition, House Bill 667 requires that any saving in cost which is realized by using a drug of generic equivalency shall be passed on to the consumer by the pharmacist. This provision is not included in Senate Bill 418.

Since the purpose of Senate Bill 418 is accomplished by the enactment and signing of House Bill 667, it is unnecessary for me to sign Senate Bill 418.

Sincerely, Marvin Mandel Governor

Senate Bill No. 421 - Chronic Illness - Rehabilitation

AN ACT concerning

Chronic Illness and Rehabilitation

FOR the purpose of specifying the authority of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene with respect to chronically ill individuals and individuals in need of rehabilitation; requiring the Secretary to establish certain public rehabilitation and chronic disease hospital centers; enabling the Secretary to contract for operation of the centers and provision of services; defining certain terms; changing certain obsolete references to the centers: making