

(E) FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, THE PERCENTAGE OF NEED MET BY THE STATE FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR SHALL BE DETERMINED BY:

(1) ADDING THE CASH GRANT WHICH WOULD BE PAID TO A FAMILY OF FOUR WITHOUT ANY OTHER INCOME FOR THE YEAR TO THE CASH VALUE OF FOOD STAMPS TO WHICH SUCH FAMILY WOULD NORMALLY BE ENTITLED;

(2) DIVIDING THAT SUM BY THE UPDATED STANDARD OF NEED APPLICABLE; AND

(3) MULTIPLYING THE DIVIDEND BY 100.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

May 19, 1981

The Honorable James Clark, Jr.
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 vetoed today Senate Bill 1061.

This bill, as amended, provides for a ten-year phase-in of the standard of need for Aid to Families with Dependent Children. The bill requires the Secretary of Human Resources to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1 of each year the updated standard of need for welfare grants applicable to the next fiscal year. It requires the Department of Fiscal Services to review, evaluate and report to the General Assembly on the Secretary's report. The bill further requires the Governor to include in the budget bill sufficient funds to increase the grant levels by not less than 10% annually until the percentage of need met reaches 100%. The bill specifies the method of determining the percentage of need met.

This bill in effect, would do two things. First, it would require the State to set the standard of need for welfare recipients each year and, second, it would require the Governor to fund a 10% increase in grant levels in each year until 100% of the standard of need is met.

Each of these requirements is laudable and I am in agreement with them. The first objective can be accomplished without legislation, but the second objective obviously requires a funding source and none has been provided. Because of the absence of an ongoing funding structure, I, as Governor, must veto this bill.