

(1) study the feasibility and desirability of imposing on carriers a network standard for in-network hospital-based physician services; and

(2) report on the findings and recommendations of its study, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

SECTION 2. 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ June 1, 2006.

May 26, 2006

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, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 693 – *Telephone Companies – Telephone Lifeline Service*.

This bill alters and expands the types of telephone lifeline service that are available to eligible subscribers; requires specified local telephone companies to provide telephone lifeline service at the direction of the Public Service Commission; requires telephone companies that provide telephone lifeline service to obtain access to information on eligible subscribers from the Department of Human Resources in a specified manner; and requires the Commission to conduct a specified study and report its findings.

House Bill 1562, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 693.

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

Senate Bill No. 693

AN ACT concerning

Telephone Companies – Telephone Lifeline Service

FOR the purpose of altering and expanding the types of telephone lifeline service that are available to eligible subscribers; requiring certain telephone companies to provide telephone lifeline service at the direction of the Public Service Commission; requiring certain telephone companies to obtain access to certain information from the Department of Human Resources in a certain manner for certain purposes; requiring the Commission to conduct a certain study and report its findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General