

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, ~~subject to the provisions of Section 3 of this Act,~~ this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

May 26, 2006

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 158 – *State Lottery – Prize Winners – Voluntary Assignments*.

This bill enables specified prize winners of the State lottery to voluntarily assign prizes that are paid in installments under specified circumstances; and requires a specified court to issue an order that approves a voluntary assignment and directs the State Lottery Agency to make specified payments to the assignee if the court makes specified findings.

Senate Bill 48, which was passed by the General Assembly and allowed to go into effect without my signature, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 158.

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

House Bill No. 158

AN ACT concerning

State Lottery – Prize Winners – Voluntary Assignments

FOR the purpose of enabling certain prize winners of the State lottery to voluntarily assign prizes that are paid in installments under certain circumstances; authorizing a certain court to hear petitions for approval of voluntary assignments; requiring a certain court to issue an order that approves a voluntary assignment and directs the State Lottery Agency to make certain payments to the assignee if the court makes certain findings; requiring that a certain notice be given to the State Lottery Agency at a certain time; requiring the State Lottery Agency under certain circumstances to send the assignor and the assignee written confirmation of an assignment and the State Lottery Agency's intent to rely on it in making payments to the assignee; prohibiting assignments from including certain payments; discharging the State Lottery Agency, the State Lottery Commission, and officials and employees of the State Lottery Agency from liability under certain circumstances; providing that certain persons be held harmless and be indemnified from certain proceedings related to the assignment; authorizing the State Lottery Agency to establish a certain fee; requiring that a contract of assignment include a certain affidavit