

(q) (1) (I) As necessary, a local jurisdiction may combine any or all proposed program amendments or program refinements required for a specific project approval into a single request to the Commission for program amendment, program refinement, or both.

(II) THE COMMISSION SHALL ENSURE THAT ANY REQUESTS RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS PARAGRAPH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES, POLICIES, GOALS, AND PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE, AND ALL CRITERIA OF THE COMMISSION.

(2) A PROJECT FOR WHICH A LOCAL JURISDICTION REQUESTS GROWTH ALLOCATION MAY BE SUBMITTED AS A PROPOSED PROGRAM AMENDMENT, PROGRAM REFINEMENT, OR BOTH.

(3) Approval by the Commission of a program amendment, program refinement, or both does not affect the Commission's authority to receive notice of or intervene in a project approval that was not specifically approved by the Commission as part of its approval of a program amendment or program refinement.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 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 1156 – *Rural Broadband Communication Services*.

This bill establishes the Maryland Rural Broadband Coordination Board; requires the Board and affected units of State government to cooperate with specified entities in a specified manner for the establishment of rural broadband telecommunication services in rural and underserved areas; and establishes a Rural Broadband Assistance Fund as a special fund in the Department of Business and Economic Development for specified purposes.

Senate Bill 753, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 1156.

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