

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 1229 – *Vehicle Laws – Rental Vehicle Companies – Separately Stated Charges*.

This bill authorizes a rental vehicle company to charge a consumer a fee to recover specified costs; authorizes a rental vehicle company to determine the amount of a separately stated fee under specified circumstances; requires a rental vehicle company to adjust the amount of the fee under specified circumstances; and requires a rental vehicle company to include specified information relating to the fee in an advertisement.

Senate Bill 888, 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 1229.

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

House Bill No. 1229

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Rental Vehicle Companies – ~~Prohibition on~~ Separately Stated Charges

FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting~~ authorizing a rental vehicle company ~~from charging to charge~~ a consumer a separately stated fee to recover ~~the rental vehicle company's titling and registration costs for its fleet of rental vehicles unless the fee represents a good faith estimate of certain costs and is itemized and described in a rental agreement in a certain manner~~ certain costs incurred by the rental vehicle company; authorizing a rental vehicle company to determine the amount of a separately stated fee under certain circumstances; requiring a rental vehicle company to adjust the amount of the fee under certain circumstances; requiring a rental vehicle company to include certain information relating to the fee in an advertisement ~~except under certain circumstances~~; requiring a certain separately stated fee to be described in a rental agreement in a certain manner; requiring a rental vehicle company to post a certain fee description on its website under certain circumstances; defining a certain term; and generally relating to rental vehicle fees.

BY adding to
 Article – Transportation