

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State may raise the defense of sovereign immunity to a contract action brought by an annuitant or prize winner of any multistate lottery game, for any claim that exceeds \$200,000.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

May 26, 2005

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 232 – *Charles County – Education – School Personnel – Employee Service or Representation Fee*.

This bill authorizes the Charles County Board of Education to negotiate with a specified employee organization in the county a service or representation fee to be charged to specified school employees for specified purposes and makes the Act applicable only to school employees hired on or after July 1, 2005.

House Bill 776, 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 232.

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

**Senate Bill No. 232**

AN ACT concerning

**Charles County – Education – School Personnel – Employee Service or Representation Fee**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Charles County Board of Education to negotiate with a certain employee organization in the county a service or representation fee to be charged to certain school employees for certain purposes; making this Act applicable only to school employees hired on or after a certain date; and generally relating to the negotiation of a service or representation fee to be charged to certain school employees employed by the Charles County Board of Education.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Education  
Section 6-407 and 6-504