

BIND THE STATE OR GIVE CONSENT TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO BIND THE STATE TO THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT RULES OF A SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any consent that a State official, including the Governor, has given for the State of Maryland to be bound by the government procurement rules of any international trade agreement on or before the effective date of this Act is declared invalid and the State of Maryland is not bound by the government procurement rules of any international trade agreement for which a State official, including the Governor, has given consent for the State of Maryland to be bound to on or before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a copy of this Act be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger III, Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ June 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 413 – *Civil Actions – Defenses – Sales of Food, Drugs, Cosmetics, and Other Health-Related Products*.

This bill abolishes in specified civil actions a defense of indirect contact with the person on whose behalf the action is brought for a person that sells, distributes, or otherwise disposes of food, drugs, cosmetics, and specified other health-related products. Senate Bill 413 also authorizes the person to prove that all or any part of an alleged overcharge ultimately was passed on to another person by a purchaser or seller in the chain of manufacture, production, or distribution who paid the alleged overcharge.

House Bill 829, 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 413.