

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 542 - *Health Insurance - Coverage for Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing*.

This bill provides that health insurance coverage, including coverage provided by a health maintenance organization is not discriminatory if, with respect to outpatient coverage of services provided to treat mental illnesses, emotional disorders, drug abuse, or alcohol abuse, benefits include psychological and neuropsychological testing for diagnostic purposes.

House Bill 458, 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 542.

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

Senate Bill No. 542

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance - Coverage for Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing

FOR the purpose of providing that health insurance coverage, including coverage provided by a health maintenance organization, is not discriminatory if, with respect to outpatient coverage for services provided to treat mental illnesses, emotional disorders, drug abuse, or alcohol abuse, benefits include psychological and neuropsychological testing for diagnostic purposes; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to health insurance coverage for psychological and neuropsychological testing for diagnostic purposes.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19-703.1(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Insurance

Section 15-802(c)