

May 26, 2005

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 200 – *Libraries – Funding – Public Libraries and Regional Resource Centers*.

This bill phases in enhancements to the formulas that fund public libraries over a four-year period. Beginning in fiscal 2007, the current \$12 per resident amount for the State library formula is raised by \$1 per year to reach \$16 by fiscal 2010. During the same four-year period, the current \$4.50 per resident State aid amount for libraries that act as regional resource centers is raised by \$1 per year to reach \$8.50 per resident by fiscal 2010.

Senate Bill 421, 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 200.

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

House Bill No. 200

AN ACT concerning

Libraries – Funding – Public Libraries and Regional Resource Centers

FOR the purpose of altering the per capita dollar amount that is required to be provided to each county public library system participating in the State's minimum library program in certain fiscal years; altering the minimum allocations per each resident of the area served that each participating regional resource center shall receive for operating and capital expenses in certain fiscal years; and generally relating to funding for public libraries and regional resource centers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Education
 Section 23–205 and 23–503
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education