

(2002 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 - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

2-504.

(a) The clerk of each circuit court shall receive an annual salary ~~of~~ not more than ~~\$85,000~~ ~~\$95,000~~ \$98,500 as set by the Board of Public Works on the basis of the relative volume of business and receipts in the clerk's office.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, pursuant to Article III, Section 35 of the Maryland Constitution, this Act may not be construed to extend or apply to the salary or compensation of the clerk of each circuit court in office on the effective date of this Act, but the provisions of this Act concerning the salary or compensation of the clerk of each circuit court shall take effect at the beginning of the next following term of office.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2005.

May 20, 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 346 - *Procurement - Percentage Price Preference - Environmentally Preferable Products or Equipment*.

This bill requires the Secretary of General Services, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland to establish a price preference for the purchase of environmentally preferable products and equipment (EPPs). The bill directs the Board of Public Works to adopt specified regulations and requires units of State government to review specifications for the procurement of goods and services currently in place and adjust those specifications to the maximum degree possible to increase the purchases of EPPs.

Under current law, the Secretary of General Services, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland are required to establish a percentage price preference, not to exceed 5%, for the purchase of products made from recycled materials. Recycled materials include post-consumer material, industrial scrap material, compost, and obsolete inventories.

If implemented, House Bill 346 would increase the cost of commodities and equipment procured by the State. The procurement of environmentally preferable products and equipment would require a significantly greater devotion of