

(2) The advisory committee consists of:

(i) five three members appointed by the Speaker of the House from the House Ways and Means Committee; and

(ii) five three members appointed by the President of the Senate from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee; and

(iii) three members who have broad technical competence and experience with voting systems, appointed jointly by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

(3) The advisory committee shall provide guidance to the State Administrator on the review, evaluation, and study of independent verification systems.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State Administrator of Elections shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2005, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2005. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

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 498 – *Procurement – eMaryland Marketplace*.

House Bill 498 provides for a new cost structure to fund the Internet-based procurement system managed by the department of General Services known as eMaryland Marketplace. The bill provides that: (1) the Department of Budget and Management may not charge a unit of State government a fee to use eMaryland Marketplace; (2) The Department of Budget and Management may assess a fee to local jurisdictions that use eMaryland Marketplace to advertise procurement contracts; and (3) a unit of State government may not charge a fee to access eMaryland Marketplace.

In the 2004 Legislative Session, House Bill 702 was passed which required the establishment of a “winner pays fee” structure for the fiscal support of eMaryland Marketplace, which would replace the current subscription system. House Bill 702 had delayed effective dates of July 1, 2005 for Section 2 and July 1, 2005 for section 3. House Bill 498 proposed to amend last year’s law so that State agencies, and possibly