

local governments, would pay for the operation of eMaryland Marketplace, thus eliminating the cumbersome fee collection efforts that the Department of General Services would have to undertake as established in last year's law before the effective date of the relevant provisions of House Bill 702. In order to fund the fee structure established under House Bill 498, The Maryland Department of Budget and Management set aside \$1.4 million in its operating budget to pay for the first year under the new program. Unfortunately, the funding was removed by the General Assembly. House Bill 498, therefore, passed without the inclusion of the necessary resources to make it work.

Following the conclusion of the 2005 Session, the Maryland Departments of Budget and Management and General Services met to discuss the development and implementation of an acceptable fee structure that can be implemented by July 1, 2005, the date established in House Bill 498. I am confident that this fee structure will serve eMaryland Marketplace well into the future, and, in fact, makes House Bill 498 unnecessary.

For the above reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 498.

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

### House Bill No. 498

AN ACT concerning

#### Procurement – eMaryland Marketplace

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Budget and Management to establish fees for the use of eMaryland Marketplace by certain entities; prohibiting the Department from charging a unit a fee under certain circumstances; repealing certain procedures for deducting and retaining certain fees to pay certain costs; *providing for a delayed effective date*; and generally relating to Internet-based procurement and eMaryland Marketplace.

BY adding to

Article – State Finance and Procurement  
Section 13-102.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2001 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY repealing

Article – State Finance and Procurement  
Section 13-103(g), 13-104(h), 13-107.1(k), and 13-111(h)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2001 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)  
(As enacted by Chapter 515 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2004)