

(d) A claim under this subtitle is denied finally:

(1) if, by certified mail, return receipt requested, under a postmark of the United States Postal Service, the Treasurer or designee sends the claimant, or the legal representative or counsel for the claimant written notice of denial; or

(2) if the Treasurer or designee fails to give notice of a final decision within 6 months after the filing of the claim.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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 841 – *Public Safety – Volunteer Company Assistance Fund – State Budget*.

This bill clarifies that a grant from the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund must be matched by at least 30% of the amount of the grant, limits loans from the Fund to 75% of the total cost of equipment or facilities being purchased, alters the application and approval process for grants and loans from the Fund, alters requirements for an annual report on grants and loans made from the Fund, and expresses legislative intent related to appropriations to and from the Fund.

Senate Bill 228, 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 841.

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

House Bill No. 841

AN ACT concerning

Public Safety – Volunteer Company Assistance Fund – State Budget

FOR the purpose of clarifying and altering certain requirements and limitations on the award of grants and loans from the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund; altering certain procedures for the award of grants and loans from the Fund; repealing requirements for each request for a grant or loan from the Fund to be submitted to the Department of Budget and Management for approval and to the Department of Legislative Services for review; altering certain requirements