

(d) To keep records relating to the annual inspections of fire and rescue apparatus, equipment, and facilities; and

(e) To establish and maintain a data base on manpower availability and training, operational cost, apparatus availability, response time, State and local financial support, and other relevant factors in providing fire and rescue services.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1985.

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May 28, 1985

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 844 at the request of the sponsor due to the unintended adverse impact this measure would have on many sheltered workshops for the disabled in the State.

House Bill 844 would amend Article 21, Section 8-201 of the Annotated Code to limit the sheltered workshops eligible for the State's preferential procurement program to those workshops receiving accreditation from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the State Department of Education. In addition, House Bill 844 would amend Article 100, Section 85 of the Annotated Code to limit, to not less than 50% of the fixed minimum wage, the discretionary authority of the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to establish a sub-minimum wage payment schedule, on an individual basis, for participants in a sheltered workshop facility. It is this latter revision which would cause unintended hardships for both the participants and operators of many sheltered workshops in Maryland.

The original intent of adopting a limit on sub-minimum wages paid in sheltered workshops was to restrict applicability of this provision to those sheltered workshops benefitting from the State's preferential procurement program. The rationale for applying this requirement only to those sheltered workshops participating in the State procurement program is because State purchase prices unlike perhaps other buyers, is based on the fair market value of goods and services. Consequently, this payment