

(2) The service or representation fee may not exceed the annual dues of the members of the organization.

(3) An employee who is a substitute teacher and who works on a short-term day-to-day basis is not required to pay a service or representation fee.

(4) An employee whose religious beliefs are opposed to joining or financially supporting any collective bargaining organization is:

(i) Not required to pay a service or representation fee, and

(ii) Required to pay an amount of money as determined in subsection (c)(2) of this section to a nonreligious, nonunion charity or to such other charitable organization as may be mutually agreed upon by the employee and the exclusive representative, and who furnishes to the public school employer and the exclusive representative written proof of such payment.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1994.

May 26, 1994.

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 887.

House Bill 887 would increase the amount of money the State contributes to each municipality per full-time police officer from \$900 to \$1,500. This bill would increase State aid to local governments by \$756,000 in fiscal year 1996.

While I certainly cannot argue with the benefits of expanded police services, the proliferation of statutory mandates on State spending erodes the ability of the Executive to establish spending priorities and develop a budget that reflects those priorities. Such mandates also limit the ability of the Governor to respond to fiscal crises in times of economic distress.

During my tenure as Governor, I have always been supportive of public safety programs at the local level. The fiscal year 1995 budget included \$52.5 million in aid for police protection, an increase of \$8.8 million or 20% over the previous year. I provided an additional \$3.2 million for special drug enforcement and violent crime grant programs in Prince George's County and \$4.3 million for Baltimore City foot patrol and violent crime grants. In 1991, my Administration introduced legislation that authorized the State to take over the Baltimore City Jail so the City could devote future resources to law enforcement needs. Therefore, in vetoing House Bill 887, it is not my intent to impair funding for local police protection.