

~~(G)~~ (I) (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF ~~LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE~~ FISCAL SERVICES SHALL KEEP A COPY OF EACH ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS RATING AND ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS FOR 3 YEARS AFTER PREPARATION OF THE RATING OR THE ANALYSIS.

(2) THE COPIES SHALL BE REASONABLY AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

~~(H)~~ (J) ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS RATINGS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSES NEED NOT BE PUBLISHED IN THE SENATE JOURNAL OR HOUSE JOURNAL.

~~(I)~~ (K) THE VALIDITY OF AN ENACTMENT OF A BILL IS NOT AFFECTED BY THE PRESENCE, ABSENCE, OR CONTENT OF AN ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS RATING OR AN ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the members of the General Assembly are encouraged to provide economic impact analysis information to the appropriate legislative agency when submitting proposed legislation.

~~SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Economic and Employment Development, after consultation with the Department of Legislative Reference, the Department of Fiscal Services, and the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, shall adopt regulations establishing criteria a business must meet to qualify as a "small business" within the meaning of this Act. The regulations shall be adopted no later than October 1, 1994.~~

~~SECTION 4. 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 982.

House Bill 982 would designate English as the common official language of the State of Maryland. The bill would apply to all branches of government within the State, and would declare that English is the language of government functions and actions. The bill would require that government entities publish each official document in English, and conduct each meeting and other official oral communication in English. The bill contains exceptions that would allow an instrumentality of government to conduct business in a language other than English, if its purpose is to: (1) comply with Federal law; (2) protect the public health and safety; (3) protect the rights of civil litigants, criminal defendants, or victims of crime; (4) assist students with limited English proficiency; (5) provide interpretation for deaf individuals in American Sign Language; (6) teach a foreign