

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 1554.

This bill would require local regulations governing the subdivision of land to provide for an appropriate right-of-way for any burial site to allow access by heirs, appointed representatives, or other "persons in interest." Any person in interest who requests reasonable access to a burial site on private land for the purpose of restoring, maintaining, or viewing the site may obtain a permission agreement from the site's owner in which the person accepts liability for their person and property while on owner's property.

Senate Bill 763, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 2, 1994, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 1554.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

House Bill No. 1554

AN ACT concerning

Access to Burial Sites

FOR the purpose of authorizing certain persons who have a certain interest in a burial site to request access to the burial site from the owner of the burial site or of property on which the burial site is located for certain purposes; authorizing certain persons requesting access to a burial site ~~under certain circumstances to use a certain form to execute a certain agreement with the owner of the burial site~~; specifying that an owner of a burial site or of property on which a burial site is located ~~and persons granted access to the burial site are subject to certain duties and liabilities is not liable for certain damages except~~ under certain circumstances; specifying that certain regulations governing the subdivision of land must contain provisions related to access to burial sites; authorizing certain persons to report the location of a burial site to the supervisor of assessments for the county where the burial site is located; specifying that the supervisor of assessments may note the location of the burial site on certain tax maps; providing for the construction of certain provisions of this Act; specifying the intent of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to obtaining access to burial sites for certain purposes.

BY adding to

Article 66B – Zoning and Planning

Section 5.03(e)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1988 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,