In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 522.

This bill provides that an alcohol and drug counselor who meets current law educational, experience, and training requirements and is employed by an agency that is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations or certified by the State, qualifies for certification as an associate counselor-alcohol and drug.

House Bill 622, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 8, 1997, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 522.

Sincerely, Parris N. Glendening Governor

Senate Bill No. 522

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations - Alcohol and Drug Counselors - Certification

FOR the purpose of altering the composition of providing for a certain certified counselor to be appointed by the Governor to serve as an advisor to the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors; altering certain qualifications for certification as a certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug; altering certain qualifications for the waiver of certain requirements for certification as a certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug, certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug, and certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug; correcting certain erroneous titles; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the qualifications for certification as an alcohol and drug counselor.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations

Section 17-202(a)(1) and (2), 17-202 (e), (f), and (g), 17-302.4, and 17-306(c)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 577 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996

Section 2

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health Occupations

17-202.

(a) (1) The Board consists of [nine] 10 members appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary.