

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 1255.

This bill authorizes the Garrett County Commissioners to issue up to \$1.5 million in general obligation bonds in order to assist in the financing of the costs of improvements of the Garrett County Memorial Hospital. The county may enter into an agreement with the hospital for the payment of debt service costs on the bonds from the hospital's revenues. The bill also empowers the county to levy ad valorem taxes for payment of debt service costs.

Senate Bill 833, 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 House Bill 1255.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

House Bill No. 1255

AN ACT concerning

Garrett County - Bonds for Garrett County Memorial Hospital

FOR the purpose of authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of Garrett County, from time to time, to borrow not more than \$1,500,000 in order to assist in the financing of the cost of certain hospital improvements in Garrett County, as herein defined, and to effect such borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or private sale of its general obligation bonds in like par amount; empowering the County to fix and determine, by resolution, the form, tenor, interest rate or rates or method of determining the same, terms, conditions, maturities, and all other details incident to the issuance and sale of the bonds; empowering the County and directing the County to enter into an agreement with Garrett County Memorial Hospital for the payment of debt service requirements of the bonds from the revenues of the Garrett County Memorial Hospital; empowering the County to issue refunding bonds for the purchase or redemption of bonds in advance of maturity; empowering and directing the County to levy, impose, and collect, annually, ad valorem taxes in rate and amount sufficient to provide funds for the payment of the maturing principal of and interest on the bonds; exempting the bonds and refunding bonds and the interest thereon and any income derived therefrom from all State, county, municipal, and other taxation in the State of Maryland; providing that nothing in this Act shall prevent the County from authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds the interest on which is not excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes; and relating generally to the issuance and sale of such bonds.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, as used herein, the term "County" means the body politic and corporate of the State of Maryland known as the County Commissioners of Garrett County, and the term "hospital improvements" means the alteration, construction, reconstruction, enlargement, equipping, expansion, extension, improvement,