SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2002.

May 18, 2000

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. President of the Senate State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 359 – Medical Assistance – Program Recipients – Continuity of Care.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to maintain continuity of care for a Medicaid program recipient in certain circumstances.

House Bill 950, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 11, 2000, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 359.

Sincerely, Parris N. Glendening Governor

## Senate Bill No. 359

## AN ACT concerning

## Medical Assistance - Program Recipients - Continuity of Care

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish certain mechanisms for identifying the primary care provider of a recipient of medical assistance and maintaining continuity of care with that provider; requiring a managed care organization, under certain circumstances, to assign a recipient of medical assistance to a particular primary care provider and to honor a request to change primary care providers; allowing a recipient to disenroll from a managed care organization under certain circumstances; requiring the Department to provide a certain notification; and generally relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and continuity of care for program recipients.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health – General Section 15–102.5 and 15–103(b)(23)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY adding to