

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report on the effects of the provisions of this Act on the long-term care industry, along with any findings and recommendations, as provided in § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly and to the Governor on or before January 1, 2002.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

May 18, 2000

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 865 - Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program - Appointment of an Ombudsman for a Nursing Home Resident.

This bill requires the Department of Aging to establish and submit a budget that supports minimum staffing ratios for the ombudsman program at the higher of one full-time ombudsman per 1,000 long-term care beds, 20 hours of ombudsman time per week per area agency or ten hours of ombudsman time per week per nursing home.

Senate Bill 764, 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 House Bill 865.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

House Bill No. 865

AN ACT concerning

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program - Appointment of an Ombudsman for a Nursing Home Resident

FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing the Secretary of Aging to delegate the authority to the Maryland Long-Term Care Ombudsman and to the director of a local office of aging to appoint an Ombudsman for a confused nursing home resident under certain circumstances;~~ requiring the Secretary to establish and budget for certain staffing ratios; and generally relating to the Ombudsman Program for nursing homes.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,