

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 386 – Medical Assistance Program – Employed Persons with Disabilities Program.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to implement the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program by July 1, 2005, subject to certain limitations.

House Bill 630, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 386.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 386

AN ACT concerning

Medical Assistance Program – Employed Persons with Disabilities Program

~~FOR the purpose of requiring that the Medical Assistance Program include a certain Employed Persons with Disabilities Program; specifying certain purposes for the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program; establishing certain criteria for eligibility to participate; establishing income levels for participation in the Program; authorizing the Department to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Department to establish a premium structure; specifying that failure to pay a certain premium results in termination of eligibility, except under a certain circumstance; authorizing the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to utilize certain collection procedures; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to make certain reports on or before a certain date each year; requiring the Department to enroll participants by a certain date; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to submit a certain application by a certain date and to provide a certain notice within a certain time; providing for the effective date of a certain portion of this Act, subject to a certain contingency; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, subject to a certain contingency, to adopt certain regulations by a certain time and in consultation with certain individuals; providing for the termination of this Act under a certain circumstance; and generally relating to the inclusion of the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program under the Medical Assistance Program requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to implement the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program by a certain date, subject to certain limitations; requiring the Department to consult with a certain coalition prior to adopting regulations that develop the eligibility criteria for the Program; requiring the Department, in consultation with a certain coalition, to review certain regulations at least every three years; requiring the Department to submit certain reports to the Governor and certain legislative committees by certain dates; and generally relating to the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program.~~