WHEREAS, Most people in Maryland already walk every day and a person can engage in other activities while walking, such as meeting and greeting neighbors, talking with friends and family, observing nature or the community, and running errands or shopping; and

WHEREAS, Environments that encourage walking help to promote tourism and commerce; and

WHEREAS, Increased walking is an important facet of livable and sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, Walking is an environmentally friendly method of transportation, which helps to reduce reliance on automobiles while cutting traffic congestion and air pollution; and

WHEREAS, Walking as a symbol for Maryland will benefit individual citizens and Maryland as a whole; now, therefore,

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

Article - State Government

13-318.

WALKING IS THE STATE EXERCISE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

May 22, 2003

The Honorable Michael E. Busch Speaker of the House State House Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 99 – Estates – Modified Administration – Final Report and Distribution – Extension.

This bill creates provisions by which the initial time periods for filing a final report and for making distribution of an estate in a modified administration may be extended.

Senate Bill 310, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 99.

Sincerely, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Governor