

would be subject to this Act if the document of title had been issued or bailment had arisen on or after the effective date of this Act; and

(3) does not apply to a right of action that has accrued before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a document of title issued or a bailment that arose before the effective date of this Act and the rights, obligations, and interests flowing from that document or bailment are governed by any statute or other rule amended or repealed by this Act as if the amendment or repeal had not occurred and may be terminated, completed, consummated, or enforced under that statute or other rule.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2004.

May 26, 2004

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, I have today vetoed House Bill 148 – *Judges' Retirement System – Death Benefits – Surviving Spouses*.

This bill removes the age restriction for a surviving spouse to receive the death benefit, of a former member or retiree, of the Judges' Retirement System.

Senate Bill 78, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 11, 2004, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 148.

Very truly yours,  
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor

**House Bill No. 148**

AN ACT concerning

**Judges' Retirement System – Death Benefits – Surviving Spouses**

FOR the purpose of removing the age restriction for a surviving spouse to receive the death benefit of a former member or retiree of the Judges' Retirement System; and generally relating to death benefits for surviving spouses of former members or retirees of the Judges' Retirement System.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,