

(c) The court may reduce to a judgment any monetary award made under this section, to the extent that any part of the award is due and owing.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively to cases for annulment or divorce filed on after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. 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 837 – *Workers' Compensation Benefits – Fraud*.

This bill requires the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to include specified information in an annual report; requires the Insurance Fraud Division to notify the Workers' Compensation Commission of specified suspected cases of insurance fraud; requires the Commission to refer specified persons to the Insurance Fraud Division under specified circumstances; requires the Commission, in consultation with the Insurance Fraud Division and in collaboration with specified persons and organizations, to conduct a study.

Senate Bill 639, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 26, 2004, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 837.

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

House Bill No. 837

AN ACT concerning

Workers' Compensation Benefits – Fraud

FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~Workers' Compensation Commission, if a good faith belief exists that a person has knowingly obtained certain benefits to which the person is not entitled, to refer the person to the Insurance Fraud Division in the Maryland Insurance Administration; requiring the Commission to compile and abstract information that includes the number and the type of confirmed acts of insurance fraud; requiring the Commission to refer a person that knowingly affects or knowingly attempts to affect the payment of certain compensation, fees, or expenses by means of a fraudulent representation to the Insurance~~