

Maryland Chiefs of Police Association on the implementation of Section 1 of this Act and that, by January 1999, the grant program established under Section 1 of this Act shall be implemented.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 1998. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force or effect. Any balance in the Motor Vehicle Registration Enforcement Fund after June 30, 2003 shall be transferred to the State's Transportation Trust Fund.

May 21, 1998

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 213.

This bill requires a claimant in a malpractice action against specified licensed professionals to file a certificate from a "qualified expert" attesting that the licensed professional against whom the claim is filed failed to meet an applicable standard of professional care. The certificate must be filed within 90 days after the claim is filed, except under specified circumstances.

House Bill 188, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 12, 1998, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 213.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 213

AN ACT concerning

Certificates of Merit - Licensed Professionals

FOR the purpose of requiring a person who originally files a certain claim in a circuit court against certain professionals to file a certificate of a qualified expert; specifying the contents of the certificate; requiring the certificate to be filed within a certain period of time and be served on certain persons; providing certain exceptions; establishing qualifications of a qualified expert; providing for certain discovery; defining certain terms; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to malpractice actions against certain professionals.