

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1998.

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 222.

This bill prohibits a person from using electronic mail (e-mail) for a communication made with the intent to harass one or more persons, by sending "lewd, lascivious, or obscene material." Violators are guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a maximum fine of \$500 and/or imprisonment of one year.

House Bill 140, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 21, 1998, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 222.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 222

AN ACT concerning

Crimes - Electronic Mail Misuse - Penalties

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from using electronic mail in a certain manner ~~and with a certain intent~~ under certain circumstances; providing a certain exception; providing certain penalties; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the misuse of electronic mail.

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 555C to be under the amended subheading "Telephone and Electronic Mail Misuse"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments