

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 379.

This bill allows a buyer to cancel the purchase of a casket or a casket vault under a preneed burial contract by written notice at any point prior to the time the buyer needs the casket or casket vault for burial. The trustee would be required to refund to the buyer the specific funds applicable to the casket or casket vault under the preneed burial contract and interest accrued on those funds. The seller would be required to pay the buyer an amount of money that would provide the buyer with a full refund of the purchase price of the casket or casket vault under the preneed burial contract.

House Bill 103, 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 379.

Sincerely,
 Parris N. Glendening
 Governor

Senate Bill No. 379

AN ACT concerning

Preneed Burial Contracts - Caskets and Casket Vaults - Refunds

FOR the purpose of allowing a buyer of certain products under a preneed burial contract to cancel the contract and receive a certain refund under certain circumstances; providing that existing obligations and contract rights may not be impaired by this Act; and generally relating to preneed burial contracts.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Business Regulation
 Section 5-708
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (1992 Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Business Regulation
 Section 5-709
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (1992 Volume and 1997 Supplement)