rescue company. In addition, the bill alters provisions relating to the payment of those benefits by adding the "estate" of an entitled decedent as an entity that must receive each of the benefits and eliminating specified age and dependency requirements for beneficiaries who are children or parents of the decedent.

Senate Bill 173, 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 House Bill 268.

Sincerely, Parris N. Glendening Governor

## House Bill No. 268

## AN ACT concerning

## Public Safety and Emergency Services Personnel - Death Benefits

FOR the purpose of requiring the State to pay a certain amount of death benefits and funeral benefits if a firefighter or rescue squad member is killed or dies under certain circumstances; requiring certain death benefits and funeral benefits to be paid to <u>certain children</u>, <u>parents</u>, or the estate of certain public safety and emergency services personnel under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; making stylistic changes; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to death benefits for public safety and emergency services personnel.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments

Section 4-1002

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 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 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments 4-1002.

- (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
  - (2) "Law enforcement officer" means:
- (i) A law enforcement officer as defined in Article 27, § 727 of the Code:
  - (ii) An officer serving in a probationary status;
- (iii) An officer who serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority of a county, incorporated municipality, or Baltimore City;