

Senate Bill 216, which was enacted by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 14, 1979, accomplishes the same purpose.

Therefore it is unnecessary for me to sign House Bill 452.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

House Bill No. 461

AN ACT concerning

State Agencies - Citizen Response Plan

FOR the purpose of requiring State agencies to adopt procedures for the handling and response to any ~~inquiry, request, or complaint~~ communication made by a member of the public; and for the keeping of related records.

May 29, 1979

Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 461.

This bill would require every department, board, bureau, commission, or other agency of the State government, except those in the legislative or judicial branches, to submit to the Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review Committee written procedures to be followed by employees in responding to communications by members of the public and the manner and circumstances in which records of communications and agency response should be maintained.

While the goal of insuring that agencies are appropriately responsive to communications from the citizens we serve is certainly laudable, this bill, in my judgment, would mandate needless bureaucratic rule making and thereby serve to unnecessarily dilute the limited resources of the executive branch agencies and unreasonably burden the AELR Committee.