

May 26, 2005

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
 Speaker of the House
 State House
 Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 317 – *Task Force on the Establishment of a Prescription Drug Repository Program*.

This bill establishes a Task Force on the Establishment of a Prescription Drug Repository Program and provides for the composition, chair, staffing, and duties of the Task Force. The Task Force is to submit a report by January 1, 2006.

Senate Bill 441, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 317.

Very truly yours,
 Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
 Governor

House Bill No. 317

AN ACT concerning

Task Force on the Establishment of a Prescription Drug Repository Program

~~FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Pharmacy to establish a Prescription Drug Repository Program to accept and dispense prescription drugs donated for the purpose of dispensing to certain individuals; providing that the Program may only accept and dispense drugs in certain unit dose packaging; providing for a certain exception; prohibiting the Program from accepting or dispensing drugs that bear a certain expiration date or may be adulterated; authorizing any person to donate prescription drugs to the Program; specifying that drugs may only be donated to certain entities that participate in the Program; requiring an entity that seeks to participate in the Program to apply to the Board in the form and manner required in regulation; specifying the persons who can receive drugs donated through the Program; requiring a drug donated through the Program to be dispensed through a prescription issued by an authorized prescriber; requiring an entity that accepts donated drugs to comply with certain laws and conduct a certain inspection; authorizing an entity to charge a handling fee to individuals receiving donated drugs; prohibiting drugs donated to the Program from being resold; prohibiting for certain matters a certain person who acts in good faith from being subject to certain prosecution, liability, or disciplinary action; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations on or before a certain date; requiring the regulations to establish certain items;~~