

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 246 – Drinking Water Security Act.

This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Environment to adopt and enforce State primary drinking water regulations for a contaminant if the Secretary determines that the contaminant poses a significant risk to public health and if the federal government has not adopted complete interim or revised national primary drinking water regulations for the contaminant. As part of the determination, the Secretary must prepare a report including specified information such as monitoring data for the contaminant, peer reviewed assessments, methodologies and data and a cost/benefit analysis of implementing the proposed standard for the contaminant.

House Bill 350, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 246.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 246

AN ACT concerning

Drinking Water – State Primary Drinking Water Regulations Security Act

FOR the purpose of ~~removing the prohibition against prohibiting the Secretary of the Environment from adopting and enforcing State primary drinking water regulations that are more stringent than certain national drinking water regulations unless the Secretary makes a certain finding; prohibiting the State primary drinking water regulations from being less stringent than certain national drinking water regulations in effect during a certain period; and generally relating to State primary drinking water regulations.~~ authorizing the Secretary of the Department of the Environment to adopt and enforce State primary drinking water regulations for a contaminant if the Secretary determines that the contaminant poses a significant risk to public health and that certain federal regulations concerning the contaminant are not in effect; requiring the Secretary to prepare a certain report concerning the proposed regulations for the contaminant; providing for the construction of a certain provision of law; and generally relating to drinking water standards.

BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 9-406(c)

Annotated Code of Maryland