

May 12, 2015

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House  
H-101 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 297 – *Higher Education – Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Tuition Exemption – Modification*.

This bill alters the definition of unaccompanied homeless youth by requiring specified documentation that establishes that the child or youth has had a consistent presence in the State for at least 1 year before enrollment in a public institution of higher education that is documented by school, employment, or other records; requires a determination of homelessness by a specified individual; and requires a financial aid administrator to annually make a specified verification.

Senate Bill 225, 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 297.

Sincerely,

Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.