

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 1083.

House Bill 1083 would require me to place the money derived from the Warner Amendment (Section 155 of the Further Continuing Appropriations Act, FY 1983, Public Law No. 97-377) in the State Budget as an appropriation at a certain level to specified energy programs. In accordance with Article III, § 52(4), (11) and (12) of the Maryland Constitution, those funds would be required to be placed in the budget for Fiscal Year 1985.

In January of this year, I created the Oil Price Overcharge Task Force in order to facilitate the disposition of funds made available as the result of U.S. Department of Energy actions against oil companies for violation of petroleum price and allocation regulations in effect between 1973 and 1981 including funds derived from the Warner Amendment. Members of the General Assembly serve on the Task Force.

The Task Force has submitted its recommendations to me, and I have authorized the expenditure of those funds by budget amendments which reflect not only the Task Force recommendations, but also the provisions of House Bill 1083.

Although the primary purpose of House Bill 1083 has already been accomplished by budget amendment, its introduction and passage provided a useful vehicle for additional legislative consideration and ratification of the Task Force recommendations. However, the enactment of a statute is a redundant process and would only serve to place a provision in the Annotated Code of Maryland which would be obsolete as of its effective date.

Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 1083.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

House Bill 1083

AN ACT concerning

Energy and Weatherization Assistance
Programs - Funding

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to apply certain federal funds to the weatherization assistance program and, energy assistance program, and energy extension service; and requiring that the funds be used for certain purposes.