

For Immediate Release www.menshealthnetwork.org

## Governor Ehrlich Signs a bill to Improve Maryland Men's Health

**WASHINGTON, May 16, 2006 –** Legislation establishing a Maryland Commission on Men's Health will be signed into law today by Governor Ehrlich. The bill creates a full commission to study and aid in providing preventative care to males.

"This unprecedented measure taken by the Maryland General Assembly and Governor Ehrlich will solidify Maryland as a leader in men's health and help to better the lives of men and their loved ones within the state of Maryland." The director of public policy for Men's Health Network (MHN), Joseph Arite commented, "it is our hope that other states will follow suit in establishing such a vital commission." MHN is ready and willing to offer support to the committee as it does in other states across the country.

Greenbelt, Maryland Urologist Dr. Myron Murdock concluded, "The Maryland Men's Health Commission will ensure that the male population is better represented in the health care arena. This will lead to a greater awareness of men's health needs among the public and among policy makers."

Men's Health Network would like to thank Delegate Murray and Senator Britt along with their dedicated staff for all the hard work put forth to guide this bill into existence. MHN has published a profile of men's health in Maryland, <u>The State of Men's Health – Maryland</u> which demonstrates the poor health of men in the state. A copy of that report is available at http://www.menshealthnetwork.org/states/MD.pdf.

Men's Health Network was created in 1991 by nationally recognized men's advocates to provide a voice for those concerned about the growing men's health crisis. It is an informational and educational organization that recognizes men's health as a specific social concern and is committed to promoting issues affecting men's health and the health and well-being of their families and can be reached at (202) 543-6461 x 101.