



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
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May 21, 2019

To the Honorable Speaker and Members,  
The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Sections 208(5); 208(7); 208(9); 208(12); 208(15); 208(16); 208(17); 208(24); 208(27); 208(28); 208(29); 220, page 42, line 23; page 42, line 38 beginning with "Fuel" through line 39 ending with "process."; page 43, line 3 beginning with "Fuel" through line 4 ending with "process."; page 43, line 15 beginning with "Fuel" through line 16 ending with "process."; page 44, line 10 beginning with "Fuel" through line 11 ending with "process."; page 44, line 31 beginning with "Fuel" through line 32 ending with "process."; page 46, line 5; 304(2); 306(17); 905, page 169, lines 36-38; page 170, lines 18-20; 905(14); 908, page 184, lines 10-12; and 908(1), Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1160 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to transportation funding and appropriations.”

**Sections 208(5), pages 17-18; 208(7), page 18; 208(15), pages 19-20; 208(16), page 20; 208(17), pages 20-21; 208(27), page 22; and 208(28), pages 22-23, Department of Licensing, Unfunded Studies**

The Department of Licensing was tasked with forming several unfunded work groups and conducting studies, while also taking significant budget cuts. The department will not be able to complete all of the directives it has been assigned without additional funding. I am directing the department to undertake these efforts as much as it can within existing resources, prioritizing the work groups that assist active-duty and former military members. For this reason, I have vetoed Sections 208(5), 208(7), 208(15), 208(16), 208(17), 208(27) and 208(28).

**Section 304(2), pages 55-56, Transportation Improvement Board, Programmatic Allotments**

This section requires the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) to allot its appropriations by certain programs and to not deviate without legislative consultation. This removes the TIB's authority, which is established in statute, to set its internal program levels. While the Legislature has the authority to appropriate funds, the executive branch has the statutory authority to allot the funds. For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 304(2).

**Section 306(17), page 62, Department of Transportation, Highway Improvements, New Rhodes Lake Road Project**

This section requires the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to support, review, and approve improvements and right-of-way plans following the preferred and recommended alternative of Pierce County's supplemental environmental impact statement for this

project, which is a traffic signal. WSDOT conducted an intersection control evaluation process with stakeholders and determined that a roundabout provides the safest and most efficient results for this intersection. WSDOT is the approving authority for intersection control on highways such as State Route 162, and as such, the proviso language conflicts with WSDOT's stewardship of SR 162. For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 306(17).

**Section 905, page 169, lines 36-38; page 170, lines 18-20; and Section 905(14), pages 172-173, Department of Transportation, Transportation Partnership Account-State Appropriation, Nickel Account-State Appropriation, and I-405/Kirkland Vicinity Project Delivery**

The supplemental budget provides appropriations to the Interstate 405/Kirkland stage 2 project that are lower than expected expenditures and would result in a shortfall of approximately \$35 million in the Highway Construction program. For this reason, I have vetoed the supplemental Transportation Partnership Account-State appropriation, the supplemental Nickel Account-State appropriation, and the project proviso in order to increase the appropriation levels. I am directing WSDOT to spend within the appropriation provided by the Legislature, but including the \$35 million necessary for the I-405 Kirkland stage 2 project. For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 905, page 169, lines 36-38; page 170, lines 18-20; and Section 905(14).

**Section 908, page 184, lines 10-12, and Section 908(1), page 184, Department of Transportation, Puget Sound Capital Construction Account-State Appropriation, Washington State Ferries Construction Program**

The supplemental budget removed the ferry dispatch system replacement project, of which \$600,000 had already been spent. The appropriation of \$600,000 was also removed. Thus, the appropriation level in the Puget Sound Capital Construction account is below what is needed to fund the capital project list in the ferry program. For this reason I have vetoed the supplemental Puget Sound Capital Construction Account-State appropriation and the capital project list, thereby restoring it to previous levels. I am directing WSDOT to spend within the appropriation and capital project list provided by the Legislature, but including the \$600,000 that was removed. For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 908, page 184, lines 10-12, and Section 908(1).

**Section 220, page 42, line 23; page 42, line 38 beginning with "Fuel" through line 39 ending with "process."; page 43, line 3 beginning with "Fuel" through line 4 ending with "process."; page 43, line 15 beginning with "Fuel" through line 16 ending with "process."; page 44, line 10 beginning with "Fuel" through line 11 ending with "process."; page 44, line 31 beginning with "Fuel" through line 32 ending with "process."; and page 46, line 5**

Section 220 includes the following sentence in six provisos: "Fuel type may not be a factor in the grant selection process." This requirement is contrary to, and in direct conflict with, the statutory mandates in RCW 47.66.040 and 47.66.030 that direct WSDOT to consider, among other criteria, energy efficiency issues, and federal and state air quality requirements in selecting programs and projects. In addition, this requirement also conflicts with, or at best substantially impairs, the statutory mandate for the state and for local government subdivisions to transition to zero emission vehicles as articulated in RCW 43.19.648.

The sentence at issue is a policy change — that is, an amendment — to existing statutory requirements. As such, the sentence violates Article II, Section 37, by amending those statutes indirectly and failing to set those statutes forth in full. It also places WSDOT and others in the untenable position of being forced to violate one state law in order to comply with another.

It is well established that the governor's veto powers in Article III, Section 12 of the Washington State Constitution extend to appropriation items and full subsections or provisos in an appropriation bill. It is also well established that our courts will intervene to prevent obvious circumvention of the veto power by the Legislature or equally obvious manipulation of that power by the governor. The addition of this sentence within these provisos constrains my ability to exercise the constitutionally authorized veto powers.

While my veto authority is generally limited to subsections or appropriation items in an appropriation bill, in this very rare and unusual circumstance I have no choice but to veto a single sentence in several subsections to prevent a constitutional violation and to prevent a forced violation of state law.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 220, page 42, line 23, page 42, line 38 beginning with "Fuel" through line 39 ending with "process.," page 43, line 3 beginning with "Fuel" through line 4 ending with "process.," page 43, line 15 beginning with "Fuel" through line 16 ending with "process.," page 44, line 10 beginning with "Fuel" through line 11 ending with "process.," page 44, line 31 beginning with "Fuel" through line 32 ending with "process", and page 46, line 5.

I have vetoed the following sections related to bills that did not pass the Legislature, resulting in the lapse of funding. My veto of these sections will serve to clean up these unnecessary sections of the bill.

Section 208(9), pages 18-19, Department of Licensing, SSB 5694, Commercial Beekeeper Drivers

Section 208(12), page 19, Department of Licensing, SSB 5591, Stolen Vehicle Check Fee

Section 208(24), page 22, Department of Licensing, HB 1255, Patches Pal License Plate

Section 208(29), page 23, Department of Licensing, ESHB 1504, Impaired Driving

For these reasons I have vetoed Sections 208(5); 208(7); 208(9); 208(12); 208(15); 208(16); 208(17); 208(24); 208(27); 208(28); 208(29); 220, page 42, line 23; page 42, line 38 beginning with "Fuel" through line 39 ending with "process.,"; page 43, line 3 beginning with "Fuel" through line 4 ending with "process.,"; page 43, line 15 beginning with "Fuel" through line 16 ending with "process.,"; page 44, line 10 beginning with "Fuel" through line 11 ending with "process.,"; page 44, line 31 beginning with "Fuel" through line 32 ending with "process"; page 46, line 5; 304(2); 306(17); 905, page 169, lines 36-38; page 170, lines 18-20; 905(14); 908, page 184, lines 10-12; and 908(1) of Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1160.

With the exception of Sections 208(5); 208(7); 208(9); 208(12); 208(15); 208(16); 208(17); 208(24); 208(27); 208(28); 208(29); 220, page 42, line 23; page 42, line 38 beginning with "Fuel" through line 39 ending with "process.,"; page 43, line 3 beginning with "Fuel" through line 4 ending with "process.,"; page 43, line 15 beginning with "Fuel" through line 16 ending with "process.,"; page 44, line 10 beginning with "Fuel" through line 11 ending with "process.,"; page 44, line 31 beginning with "Fuel" through line 32 ending with "process"; page 46, line 5; 304(2); 306(17); 905, page 169, lines 36-38; page 170, lines 18-20; 905(14); 908, page 184, lines 10-12; and 908(1), Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1160 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jay Inslee  
Governor