

March 18, 2022

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Mac Warner Secretary of State Building I, Suite 157-K State Capitol Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Re: Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 250

Dear Secretary Warner:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section Fifty-One, Article VI of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby return Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 250, passed March 12, 2022, approved with the following objection:

My objection is to item 407, in its entirety, on page 190, which states:

"407 - Department of Revenue

(WV Code Chapter 11)

Fund 0465 FY 2023 Org 0701

General Revenue Fund - Transfer - Surplus...... XXXXX \$265,000,000

The above appropriation for General Revenue Fund - Transfer - Surplus (fund 0465, appropriation ######) shall be credited to Fiscal Year 2023 General Revenue collections."

With the failure of the House Bill to eliminate the Personal Income Tax, HB 4007 and the passage of the Rainy Day Funds bill, SB 487, essentially eliminating the transfer of surpluses to the Rainy Day fund, there is absolutely no reason to set aside surplus revenues in a random agency without any general law purpose.

Further, it would set a bad precedent to set aside funds for a purpose that the Legislature rejected. It would also set bad precedent to appropriate funds to a fund for which there is no stated purpose, doing nothing to accomplish the intended goal but making the funds unavailable for an entire

Office of the Governor

year. As a good steward of taxpayer dollars, I want to be as transparent as possible when it comes to how we are spending the taxpayers' money, let alone the surpluses we have been blessed with by making the right, thoughtful moves.

For the reasons stated herein, I have approved, subject to the above objections, Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 250.

Sincerely,

im Justice

Governor

cc: The Hon. Roger Hanshaw
Speaker of the House of Delegates
The Hon. Craig Blair
President of the Senate