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2008 MAR 21 PM 4:48

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SECRETARY OF STATE

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March 21, 2008

The Honorable Betty Ireland
Secretary of State
State of West Virginia
State Capitol
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Secretary Ireland:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 51, Article VI of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby return Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 150 approved with the following objections.

My first objection to the Bill is contained in the language found on page 6 through page 7, line 85 through line 131, which states:

“Appropriations classified in any of the above categories shall be expended only for the purposes as defined above and only for the spending units herein designated: *Provided*, That the secretary of each department shall have the authority to transfer within the department those general revenue funds appropriated to the various agencies of the department: *Provided, however*, That no more than five percent of the general revenue funds appropriated to any one agency or board may be transferred to other agencies or boards within the department and no funds so transferred may be transferred to a “personal services” line: *Provided further*, That the secretary of each department and the director, commissioner, executive secretary, superintendent, chairman or any other agency head not governed by a departmental secretary as established by chapter five-f of the code shall have the authority to transfer funds appropriated to “personal services” and “employee benefits” to other lines within the same account and no funds from other lines shall be transferred to the “personal services” line: *And provided further*, That the secretary of each department and the director, commissioner, executive secretary, superintendent, chairman or any other agency head not governed by a departmental secretary as established by chapter five-f of the code shall have the authority to transfer general revenue funds appropriated to “annual increment” to other general revenue accounts within the same department, bureau or commission for the purpose of providing

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an annual increment in accordance with article five, chapter five of the code: *And provided further*, That no authority exists hereunder to transfer funds into line-items to which no funds are legislatively appropriated: *And provided further*, That if the Legislature by subsequent enactment consolidates agencies, boards or functions, the secretary or other appropriate agency head may transfer the funds formerly appropriated to such agency, board or function in order to implement such consolidation. No funds may be transferred from a Special Revenue Account, dedicated account, capital expenditure account or any other account or fund specifically exempted by the Legislature from transfer, except that the use of the appropriations from the State Road Fund for the office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation is not a use other than the purpose for which such funds were dedicated and is permitted.”

The phrase contained in lines 95 and 96 “and no funds so transferred may be transferred to a ‘personal services’ line” is new language that would eliminate a department secretary’s ability to transfer personnel within his/her department to achieve needed efficiencies. Therefore, I am deleting this restrictive language.

My second objection to the Bill is contained in Item 10, page 20, line 18, which states:

“4-H Camp Improvements 941 990,000”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. In addition, there is already sufficient funding for these types of expenditures within State government which allows for more transparency, accountability, and efficiency. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$990,000 to \$0.

My third objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 18, page 25, line 26 through line 32, which states:

“From the above appropriation for Financial Advisor (activity 304) amounts may be expended for financial consulting services, conditioned upon the provider of the services monthly reports to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance on all aspects of its work, including all findings, reports, recommendations, projects and tasks.”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. Requiring the service providers to make monthly reports and provide the specified copies to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is cost-prohibitive inasmuch as the State would be required to compensate each provider for its time and reimburse expenses associated with the preparation of such monthly reports. Therefore, I am deleting the phrase contained in lines 28 through 32 which reads “, conditioned upon the provider of the services monthly reports to the Joint Committee

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on Government and Finance on all aspects of its work, including all findings, reports, recommendations, projects and tasks”.

My fourth objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 21, page 27, line 11 through line 25, which states:

“From the above appropriation for Preservation and Maintenance of Statues and Monuments on Capitol Grounds (activity 371), the Division shall first restore The Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Monument, then consider the suggestions of the National Park Service resulting from its ongoing informal assessment of the condition of these statues and memorials in setting further priorities for preservation and maintenance. The Division shall report on its progress in these efforts at each meeting of the Council of Finance and Administration, along with its priorities for this and future funding. The Division shall also consult the Division of Culture and History and Capitol Building Commission in all aspects of planning, assessment, maintenance and restoration.”

I am deleting the phrase contained in lines 13 through 22 which reads “first restore The Union Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Monument, then consider the suggestions of the National Park Service resulting from its ongoing informal assessment of the condition of these statues and memorials in setting further priorities for preservation and maintenance. The Division shall report on its progress in these efforts at each meeting of the Council of Finance and Administration, along with its priorities for this and future funding. The Division shall also” because this language is overly restrictive and could cause inefficiencies in restoration work.

My fifth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 35, page 34, line 7, which states:

“Unclassified 099 3,169,569”

Included in the above appropriation for “Unclassified” is \$50,000 for a new highway authority. In consideration of current national economic conditions and the hardships faced by many other states, it is prudent at this time to work toward the completion of existing projects rather than spreading already thin resources to new projects that would require ongoing funding in future years. The above “Unclassified” appropriation also includes new funding of \$80,000 for the National Railway Historical Society New River Excursion, however, I believe it is important to be financially cautious and take a more conservative approach by reducing the \$80,000 to \$40,000. Therefore, I am cumulatively reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$90,000, to \$3,079,569.

My sixth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 35, page 35, line 41, which states:

“I-79 Development Council 824 80,000”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s

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base budget. The above appropriation of \$80,000 is \$30,000 above the 2008 level appropriation. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$30,000, to \$50,000.

My seventh objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 35, page 36, line 86 through line 96, which states:

“From the above appropriation for the Unclassified (fund 0256, activity 099), \$125,000 is for King Coal Highway Authority; \$125,000 is for Coal Field Expressway Authority; \$100,000 is for Coal Heritage Highway Authority; \$100,000 is for Coal Heritage Area Authority; \$50,000 is for Little Kanawha River Parkway; \$90,000 is for Midland Trail Scenic Highway Association; \$57,000 is for Shawnee Parkway Authority; \$100,000 is for Corridor G Highway Authority; \$75,000 is for Corridor H Authority; and \$50,000 is for Route 2 I68 Highway Authority.”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. The Route 2 I68 Highway Authority has not received funding in prior years. In consideration of current economic conditions nationally and in surrounding states, it is prudent at this time to work toward the completion of existing projects rather than spreading already thin resources to new projects that would require ongoing funding in future years. Therefore, I am deleting line 95 through line 96 which states “; and \$50,000 is for Route 2 I68 Highway Authority”.

My eighth objection to the Bill is contained in the language in Item 35, page 36, line 97 through line 100, which states:

“From the above appropriation for the Unclassified (fund 0256, activity 099) \$250,000 is for Hatfield McCoy Recreational Trail; and \$80,000 is for the National Railway Historical Society New River Excursion.”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken in building the State’s budget. Therefore, I am reducing the amount on line 99 which reads “\$80,000” to “\$40,000”.

My ninth objection to the Bill is contained in Item No. 37, page 37, line 11, which states:

“Law Enforcement 806 \$4,061,725”

Enrolled Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 477 relates to the compensation of Conservation Officers. Specifically, the Bill provides for a base pay increase, a hiring bonus, and an increase in incremental pay. Although I supported the intent of the Bill, I vetoed this legislation.

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At the outset, I acknowledge the hard work and dedication of this State’s Conservation Officers. Conservation Officers are the backbone of the Division of Natural Resources, and their contributions to the public welfare cannot be overstated. Nevertheless, I did not approve this Bill at this time. I have repeatedly stated that public salaries must be evaluated on a comprehensive basis within the context of all public employees. Addressing public salaries in this manner offers a deeper perspective of the State’s financial standing and ensures that public employees are treated fairly. To that end, I requested – and the Legislature approved – a three percent salary increase for all state employees, Conservation Officers included, in the State Budget for the fiscal year 2009. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$1,132,380, to \$2,929,345.

My tenth objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 38, page 38, line 4, which states:

“Unclassified (R) 099 2,197,375”

The “(R)” following the name of an appropriation denotes the unexpended amounts at the end of the year are reappropriated to the next fiscal year. There will be no reappropriation language for this activity. Therefore, I have deleted the “(R)” contained on line 4.

My eleventh objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 38, page 38, line 9 through line 15, which states:

“The appropriation above for Unclassified (fund 0277, fiscal year 2006, activity 099) shall be used in developing, procuring and/or deploying, technologies to assist in locating and communicating with trapped miners, supporting life, transporting rescue personnel and rescued individuals through underground mines and otherwise assist with mine rescue operations.”

The funding from this activity and fiscal year is nearly exhausted, and because no provision for reappropriation in fiscal year 2009 has been made, the directive language is unnecessary. Therefore, I am deleting in its entirety line 9 through line 15.

My twelfth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 45, page 41, line 4, which states:

“Unclassified (R) 099 3,915,000”

Included within this funding is \$515,000 which would offset the unreserved fund balance at June 30, 2007 of four county boards of education. However, changes in the school aid formula made in Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 4588, passed during the 2008 Regular Legislative Session, help address the funding needs of those counties. The new funding formula, which includes enhanced funding for smaller counties, will add over \$34,000,000 to the School Aid Formula over the next five years and provide for a more fair distribution of the funds. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$515,000, to \$3,400,000.

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My thirteenth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 45, page 41, line 8, which states:

“Teacher Mentor (R) 158 1,000,000”

With the pending Teacher Retirement merger outcome bringing uncertainty as to how many new teachers will require a mentor teacher next school year, due to the possibility of increased retirements, I believe the current level funding of \$850,000 is sufficient for the Teacher Mentor Program until we have more information. After the Teacher Retirement Merger is finalized the funding needs of the Teacher Mentor Program will be reassessed. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$150,000, to \$850,000.

My fourteenth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 45, page 42, line 37 through line 38, which states:

**“WV Commission on Holocaust
Education 935 15,000”**

Funding for this most worthy project will be provided through the State Department of Education’s Unclassified line item. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$15,000, to \$0.

My fifteenth objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item 45, page 43 through page 44, line 86 through 92, which states:

“From the above appropriation for Unclassified (activity 099) \$150,000 is for Hancock County Board of Education, \$120,000 is for Hardy County Board of Education, \$225,000 is for Pendleton County Board of Education and \$20,000 is for Taylor County Board of Education. This funding is needed to offset the deficits at these County Boards of Education.”

Changes in the school aid formula made in Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 4588, passed during the 2008 Regular Legislative Session, help address the funding needs of these counties. The new funding formula, which includes enhanced funding for smaller counties, will add over \$34,000,000 to the School Aid Formula over the next five years and provide for a more fair distribution of the funds. For those reasons, I am eliminating the funding of \$515,000. Therefore, I am deleting, in its entirety, line 86 through line 92.

My sixteenth objection to the Bill is contained in Item No. 60, page 55, line 39 through line 40, which states:

**“Emergency Response Entities -
Special Projects 822 1,000,000”**

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Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's base budget. The above appropriation of \$1,000,000 is \$200,000 above the 2008 level appropriation. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$200,000, to \$800,000.

My seventeenth objection to the Bill is contained in Item No. 61, page 58, line 5 through line 6, which states:

**“Behavioral Health Program-
Unclassified (R) 219 \$52,829,562”**

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's base budget. The above appropriation of \$52,829,562 is \$50,000 above the 2008 level appropriation with respect to the Four Angels program. Keeping the amount at the FY 2008 level, \$100,000, and knowing that other grant opportunities are available from various sources such as the Purdue Pharma/OxyContin settlement funds, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$50,000, to \$52,779,562.

My eighteenth objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 61, page 59, line 32 through line 35, which states:

“Included in the above appropriation for Behavioral Health Program Unclassified (fund 0525, activity 219) is \$150,000 for the Four Angels Substance Abuse Treatment Project development.”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's base budget. The FY 2008 funding level of \$100,000, together with funding that may be received from other sources, such as applying for a grant from the Purdue Pharma/OxyContin settlement funds, which have set aside \$1,000,000 for statewide prevention programs would provide this program with adequate funding. Since additional opportunities for the Four Angels Substance Abuse program are available, I am reducing the amount on line 34 which reads “\$150,000” to “\$100,000” to maintain the fiscal year 2008 level of funding.

My nineteenth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 64, page 61, line 21 through line 22, which states:

**“WV Teaching Hospitals
Tertiary/Safety Net 547 6,356,000”**

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's

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base budget. The above appropriation of \$6,356,000 is \$1,500,000 above the 2008 level appropriation. In addition, funding for this program increased by \$1,500,000 from FY 2007 to FY 2008. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$1,500,000, to \$4,856,000.

My twentieth objection to the Bill is contained in Item No. 64, page 62, line 24, which states:

“In-Home Family Education 688 \$1,000,000”

In consideration of current economic conditions nationally and in surrounding states, I believe a smaller appropriation increase to this worthy program will be sufficient to deliver necessary services. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$250,000, to \$750,000, which nevertheless yields an increase of \$145,000 over the prior budget year.

My twenty-first objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 64, page 64, line 97 through line 100, which states:

“From the above appropriation for Medical Services (activity 189), the division shall expend any funds necessary to comply with the Court Order dated March 15, 2000 in the Benjamin H. Et. Al. Joan Ohl case.”

The proposed language does not provide guidance beyond that provided by the Court Order in the cited case. The Department of Health and Human Resources is already taking adequate steps to comply with the Court Order. Therefore, I am deleting in its entirety line 97 through line 100.

My twenty-second objection to the Bill is contained in Item 66, page 65, line 4, which states:

“Unclassified (R) 099 20,054,605”

Included in the “Unclassified” line is \$100,000 of funding for the former Oak Hill Armory. The property has been sold and the transfer has been completed. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$100,000, to \$19,954,605.

My twenty-third objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item No. 66, page 66, line 20 through line 23, which states:

“From the above appropriation for Unclassified (fund 0433, activity 099) \$100,000 is for the Oak Hill Armory and an amount not less than \$1,200,000 is for the Mountaineer Challenge Academy.”

The Oak Hill Armory has been sold and the property transfer is complete. Therefore, I am deleting the language contained in line 21 and line 22 “\$100,000 is for the Oak Hill Armory and”.

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My twenty-fourth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 90, page 85, line 2 and line 3, which states:

**“Higher Education Grant
Program 164 34,084,576”**

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. The amount of \$33,660,000 included in the FY 2009 Executive Budget already addressed the requirements of W.Va. Code §18C-5-3 by providing a 2% increase over the previous fiscal year appropriation to the grant program. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$424,576, to \$33,660,000.

My twenty-fifth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 91, page 87, line 23, which states:

“West Virginia University 459 115,512,018”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. Included in the above appropriation for West Virginia University is \$260,000 of new funds for the Alzheimer’s Disease Registry. However, funding relating to Alzheimer’s Disease of \$800,000 is currently provided in the FY 2009 base budget at the WVU-School of Health Sciences, and \$1,000,000 was provided to the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute in a March 2007 Special Session. Therefore, I am reducing the \$260,000 to \$0. Also included in the above appropriation is an additional \$10,000 for the rifle team, over and above the \$100,000 FY 2008 appropriation level. Therefore, I am reducing the amount by \$10,000 to maintain the FY 2008 appropriation level. Additionally, the above appropriation includes new funding of \$100,000 for Turkey Research at Raymann Memorial Farms. In an effort to avoid building the base budget with funding for new projects, I am reducing the \$100,000 to \$0. Therefore, I am cumulatively reducing the above appropriation by the amount of \$370,000, to \$115,142,018.

My twenty-sixth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 91, page 87, line 28 through line 29, which states:

**“State Priorities-Brownfield/
Professional Development (R) 531 902,830”**

A portion of the funding provided by this appropriation is dedicated to funding demographers at both Marshall University and West Virginia University to obtain information similar to that which will be provided by the Regional Economic Models Incorporated (REMI) project. Funding for the operation of REMI is provided in other budgetary lines, thus this appropriation is duplicative. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$100,000, to \$802,830.

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My twenty-seventh objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item 91, page 88 through 89, line 70 through line 92, which states:

“Included in the above appropriation for West Virginia University is \$34,500 for the Marshall and WVU Faculty and Course Development International Study Project, \$246,429 for the WVU Law School–Skills Program, \$147,857 for the WVU Coal and Energy Research Bureau, \$19,714 for the WVU College of Engineering and Mineral Resources–Diesel Training–Transfer, \$82,500 for the WVU-Sheep Study, \$500,000 for the Mining Engineering Program, \$500,000 for the Center for Multiple Sclerosis Program, \$550,000 for the Davis College of Forestry Agriculture and Consumer Sciences various improvements, \$200,000 for Reedsville Arena, Meat Labs, and outreach activities, \$80,000 for a Landscape Architect at Davis College of Forestry Agriculture and Consumer Sciences, \$100,000 for the WVU-Soil Testing Program, \$100,000 for a veterinarian, 50,000 for the WVU Cancer Study, 220,000 for the WVU Petroleum Engineering Program, \$260,000 for the Alzheimer’s Disease Registry, \$110,000 for the rifle team, \$250,000 for the Jackson’s Mill Arena building, \$500,000 for the Jackson’s Mill Infrastructure electricity and water, and \$100,000 for Turkey Research at Raymann Memorial Farms.”

As fully set forth in my twenty-fifth objection herein, due to other funding that has been provided, I am deleting the language on line 87 through line 88 that reads “\$260,000 for the Alzheimer’s Disease Registry,”. Additionally, I am reducing the amount in the language on line 88 through line 89 that directs “\$110,000” for the rifle team, to “\$100,000” to maintain funding at the FY 2008 level. Finally, I am deleting the language on line 91 through line 92 that reads “, and \$100,000 for Turkey Research at Raymann Memorial Farms” to avoid building the base budget with the addition of a new project at a time when it is important to practice fiscal restraint.

My twenty-eighth objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item 91, page 89 through page 90, line 104 through line 108, which states:

“From the above appropriation for State Priorities-Brownfield Professional Development (fund 0586, activity 591) \$50,000 shall be made payable to both Marshall University and West Virginia University for a demographer.”

Funding for the operation of REMI, which provides information similar to that which a demographer may provide, is included in other budgetary lines, thus this appropriation is duplicative. I am eliminating the funding of \$100,000 for a demographer at both Marshall University and West Virginia University. Therefore, I am deleting in its entirety line 104 through line 108.

My twenty-ninth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 251, page 158, line 4, which states:

“Fairs and Festivals 122 2,990,000”

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Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's base budget. The above appropriation of \$2,990,000 is \$304,000 above the 2008 level appropriation. I believe that the Legislature can fairly fund Fairs and Festivals with the balance from the current year appropriation and with minor adjustments to the funding levels. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$304,000, to \$2,686,000.

My thirtieth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 251, page 158, line 9, which states:

"Tri-County Fair Association 343 125,000"

In addition to the appropriation above, Tri-County Fair receives a \$15,000 grant in the FY 2009 Fairs and Festivals appropriation. The \$125,000 appropriation greatly exceeds the amount provided for similar fairs and festivals. Therefore, I am reducing the above Tri-County Fair Association appropriation in the amount of \$100,000, to \$25,000. With this reduction, Tri-County Fair will still receive a total of \$40,000 from both sources of funding.

My thirty-first objection to the Bill is contained in Item 251, page 159 through page 169, line 36 through line 383, which states:

"Included in the above appropriation for Fairs and Festivals (fund 3534, activity 122) funding shall be provided to the African-American Cultural Heritage Festival 5,000, African-American Heritage Family Tree Museum 4,500, African-American Jubilee (Ohio) 5,500, Alderson 4th of July Celebration (Greenbrier) 5,000, Allegheny Echo (Pocahontas) 7,500, Alpine Festival/Leaf Peepers Festival (Tucker) 11,250, American Legion Post 8, Veterans Day Parade 2,000, Angus Beef and Cattle Show (Lewis) 1,500, Annual Labor Day Observance (Randolph) 2,000, Antique Market Fair (Lewis) 2,000, Apollo Theater-Summer Program (Berkeley) 2,000, Appalachian Autumn Festival (Braxton) 3,500, Appalachian Mountain Bike Race (Calhoun) 1,500, Apple Butter Festival (Morgan) 6,000, Aracoma Story (Logan) 50,000, Arkansas Homemaker's Heritage Weekend (Hardy) 3,500, Armed Forces Day-South Charleston (Kanawha) 3,000, Arthurdale Heritage New Deal Festival (Preston) 5,000, Arts Monongahela (Monongalia) 20,000, Athens Town Fair (Mercer) 2,000, Augusta Fair (Randolph) 5,000, Barbour County Arts & Humanities Council 1,500, Barbour County Fair 25,000, Barboursville Octoberfest (Cabell) 5,000, Bass Festival (Pleasants) 1,850, Battelle District Fair (Monongalia) 5,000, Battle of Dry Creek (Greenbrier) 1,500, Battle of Lewisburg Civil War Days (Greenbrier) 3,000, Battle of Point Pleasant Memorial Committee (Mason) 5,000, Beckley Main Street (Raleigh) 5,000, Belington VFD Community Fair (Barbour) 1,750, Belle Boyd House (Berkeley) 2,000, Belle Town Fair (Kanawha) 4,500, Bergoo Down Home Days (Webster) 2,500, Berkeley County Youth Fair 3,500, Birch River Days Festival (Nicholas) 2,000, Black Bear 4K Mountain Bike Race 1,000, Black Heritage Festival (Harrison) 6,000, Black Walnut Festival (Roane) 10,000, Blue-Gray Reunion (Barbour) 3,500, Boone County Fair 10,000, Boone County Labor Day Celebration 4,000, Bradshaw Fall Festival (McDowell) 2,000, Bramwell Street

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Fair (Mercer) 1,500, Braxton County Fairs and Festivals Association 11,500, Brooke County Fair 3,500, Bruceton Mills Good Neighbor Days (Preston) 2,000, Buckwheat Festival (Preston) 8,500, Buffalo 4th of July Celebration (Putnam) 500, Buffalo Creek Memorial (Logan) 5,000, Burlington Apple Harvest Festival (Mineral) 30,000, Cabell County Fair 10,000, Calhoun County Wood Festival 2,000, Cape Coalwood Festival Association (McDowell) 2,500, Capon Bridge Annual VFD Celebration (Hampshire) 1,000, Capon Springs Ruritan 4th of July (Hampshire) 1,000, Carnegie Hall, Inc. (Greenbrier) 70,000, Cass Homecoming (Pocahontas) 2,000, Cedarville Town Festival (Gilmer) 1,000, Celebration in the Park (Wood) 4,000, Celebration of America (Monongalia) 6,000, Ceredo Historical Society (Wayne) 2,000, Ceredo-Kenova Railroad Museum (Wayne) 2,000, Chapmanville Apple Butter Festival (Logan) 1,000, Chapmanville Fire Department 4th of July 3,000, Charles Town Christmas Festival (Jefferson) 5,000, Charles Town Heritage Festival (Jefferson) 5,000, Charleston Sternwheel Regatta (Kanawha) 20,000, Cherry River Festival (Nicholas) 6,500, Chester Fireworks (Hancock) 1,500, Chester Fourth of July Festivities (Hancock) 5,000, Chief Logan State Park-Civil War Celebration (Logan) 8,000, Christmas in Shepherdstown (Jefferson) 4,000, Christmas in the Park (Brooke) 5,000, Christmas in the Park (Logan) 25,000, City of Dunbar Critter Dinner (Kanawha) 10,000, City of Pinegrove Centennial Celebration (Wetzel) 5,000, City of Pleasant Valley Celebration (Marion) 2,500, Civil War Horse Cavalry Race (Barbour) 1,000, Clay County Golden Delicious Apple Festival 5,000, Coal Field Jamboree (Logan) 35,000, Coalton Days Fair (Randolph) 7,000, Collis P. Huntington Railroad Historical Society 10,000, Country Roads Festival (Fayette) 2,000, Cowen Railroad Festival (Webster) 3,500, Craigsville Fall Festival (Nicholas) 3,500, Delbarton Homecoming (Mingo) 3,500, Doddridge County Fair 5,200, Dunlow Fall Festival (Wayne) 2,000, Durbin Days (Pocahontas) 5,000, Elbert/Filbert Reunion Festival (McDowell) 1,500, Elizabethtown Festival (Marshall) 4,000, Fairview 4th of July Celebration (Marion) 1,000, Farm Safety Day (Preston) 2,000, Fayette American Legion 4th of July 1,000, FestivALL Charleston (Kanawha) 20,000, First Stage Children's Theater Company (Cabell) 2,000, Flanagan Murrell House (Summers) 10,000, Flatwood Days (Braxton) 1,000, Flemington Day Fair and Festival (Taylor) 3,500, Follansbee Community Days (Brooke) 8,250, Fort Ashby Fort (Mineral) 1,500, Fort Gay Mountain Heritage Days (Wayne) 5,000, Fort New Salem (Harrison) 3,700, Fort Randolph (Mason) 5,000, Frankford Autumnfest (Greenbrier) 5,000, Franklin Fishing Derby (Pendleton) 7,500, Freshwater Folk Festival (Greenbrier) 5,000, Friends Auxiliary of W.R. Sharpe Hospital 5,000, Frontier Days (Harrison) 3,000, Frontier Fest/Canaan Valley (Taylor County) 5,000, Fund for the Arts-Wine & All that Jazz Festival 2,500, Gassaway Days Celebration (Braxton) 5,000, General Adam Stephen Memorial Foundation 18,525, Gilbert Kiwanis Harvest Festival (Mingo) 4,000, Gilbert Spring Fling (Mingo) 5,000, Gilmer County Farm Show 4,000, Grafton Mother's Day Shrine Committee (Taylor) 8,500, Grant County Arts Council 2,000, Grape Stomping Wine Festival (Nicholas) 2,000, Great Greenbrier River Race (Greenbrier) 50,000, Greater Quinwood Days (Greenbrier) 2,000, Green Spring Days (Hampshire) 1,000, Guyandotte Civil War Days (Cabell) 10,000, Hamlin 4th of July Celebration (Lincoln) 5,000, Hampshire Civil War Celebration Days 1,000, Hampshire County 4th of July Celebration 20,000, Hampshire County Fair 6,000,

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Hampshire County French & Indian War Celebration 1,000, Hampshire Heritage Days 3,000, Hancock County Oldtime Fair 5,000, Hardy County Commission - 4th of July 10,000, Hardy County Tour and Crafts Association 20,000, Harts Community Celebration (Lincoln) 1,000, Hatfield McCoy Matewan Reunion Festival (Mingo) 5,000, Hatfield McCoy Trail National ATV and Dirt Bike Weekend (Wyoming) 5,000, Heritage Craft Center of the Eastern Panhandle 7,000, Heritage Craft Festival (Monroe) 1,000, Heritage Days Festival (Roane) 1,500, Heritage Farm Museum & Village (Cabell) 50,000, Hicks Festival (Tucker) 2,000, Hilltop Festival (Huntington) 1,000, Hinton Railroad Days (Summers) 5,500, Historic Fayette Theater (Fayette) 5,500, Historic Middleway Conservancy (Jefferson) 1,000, Holly River Festival (Webster) 1,500, Hundred 4th of July (Wetzel) 7,250, Hundred American Legion Earl Kiger Post Bluegrass Festival (Wetzel) 2,000, Huntington Outdoor Theater (Cabell) 2,000, Hurricane 4th of July Celebration (Putnam) 5,000, Iaeger Lions Club Annual Golf Show (McDowell) 1,500, Iaeger Town Fair (McDowell) 1,500, Indian Mound Cemetery (Hampshire) 2,000, International Ramp Cook-Off (Randolph) 2,000, Irish Heritage Festival of WV (Raleigh) 5,000, Irish Spring Festival (Lewis) 1,000, Italian Heritage Festival-Clarksburg (Harrison) 30,000, Jackson County Fair 5,000, Jacksonburg Homecoming (Wetzel) 1,000, Jane Lew Arts and Crafts Fair (Lewis) 1,000, Jefferson Co. Black History Preservation Society 5,000, Jefferson Co. Historical Landmark Commission 8,000, Jefferson County African American Heritage Festival 5,000, Jefferson County Fair Association 25,000, Jersey Mountain Ruritan Pioneer Days (Hampshire) 1,000, John Henry Days Festival (Monroe) 5,000, Johnnie Johnson Blues and Jazz Festival (Marion) 5,000, Johnstown Community Fair (Harrison) 2,500, Junior Heifer Preview Show (Lewis) 2,000, Kanawha Coal Riverfest-St. Albans July 5,000, Kay Ford Reunion (Kanawha) 2,500, Kenova Fall Festival (Wayne) 5,000, Kermit Fall Festival (Mingo) 3,000, Keyser Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration (Mineral) 1,000, King Coal Festival (Mingo) 5,000, Kingwood Downtown Street Fair and Heritage Days (Preston) 2,000, L.Z. Rainelle WV Veterans Reunion (Greenbrier) 5,000, Lady of Agriculture (Preston) 1,000, Lamb and Steer Show 9,000, Larry Joe Harless Center Octoberfest Hatfield McCoy Trail (Mingo) 10,000, Last Blast of Summer (McDowell) 5,000, Laurel Mt. Re-enactment Committee (Barbour) 3,250, Levels VFD Lawn Association (Hampshire) 1,000, Lewis County Fair Association 3,500, Lewisburg Shanghai (Greenbrier) 2,000, Lincoln County Fall Festival 8,000, Lincoln County Winterfest 5,000, Lincoln District Fair (Marion) 2,500, Lindside 4th of July (Monroe) 500, Little Birch Days Celebration (Braxton) 500, Little Levels Heritage Festival 2,000, Logan County Arts and Crafts Fair 4,000, Logan Freedom Festival 15,000, Lost Creek Community Festival 6,000, Maddie Carroll House (Cabell) 7,500, Mannington District Fair (Marion) 6,000, Maple Syrup Festival (Randolph) 1,000, Marion County FFA Farm Fest 2,500, Marmet Annual Labor Day Celebration (Kanawha) 2,000, Marshall County Antique Power Show 2,500, Marshall County Fair 7,500, Marshall County Historical Society 8,500, Mason County Fair 5,000, Mason Dixon Festival (Monongalia) 7,000, Matewan Massacre Reenactment (Mingo) 6,000, Matewan-Magnolia Fair (Mingo) 45,000, McARTS-McDowell County 20,000, McCoy Theater (Hardy) 20,000, McDowell County Fair 2,500, McGrew House History Day 2,000, McNeill's Rangers (Mineral) 8,000, Meadow Bridge Hometown Festival (Fayette) 1,250,

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Meadow River Days Festival 3,000, Mercer Bluestone Valley Fair 2,000, Mercer County Fair 2,000, Mid Ohio Valley Antique Engine Festival (Wood) 3,000, Milton Christmas in the Park (Cabell) 2,500, Milton Fourth of July Celebration (Cabell) 2,500, Mineral County Fair 1,750, Mineral County Veterans Day Parade 1,500, Molasses Festival (Calhoun) 2,000, Moncove Lake Festival (Monroe) 2,000, Monroe County Farmer's Day - Union 2,000, Monroe County Harvest Festival 2,000, Morgan County Fair-History Wagon 1,500, Morgantown Theater Company 20,000, Mothers' Day Festival (Randolph) 2,500, Moundsville Bass Festival 4,000, Moundsville July 4th Celebration (Marshall) 5,000, Mount Liberty Fall Festival (Barbour) 2,500, Mountain Fest (Monongalia) 20,000, Mountain Festival (Mercer) 4,625, Mountain Heritage Arts and Crafts Festival 5,000, Mountain Music Festival 2,500, Mountain State Apple Harvest Festival (Berkeley) 7,500, Mountain State Arts Crafts Fair Cedar Lakes (Jackson) 5,000, Mountaineer Boys' State (Lewis) 10,000, Mountaineer Hot Air Balloon Festival (Monongalia) 4,000, Mud River Festival (Lincoln) 8,000, Mullens Dogwood Festival (Wyoming) 6,000, Multi-Cultural Festival of West Virginia 20,000, Museum in the Community (Putnam) 45,000, Music Hall of Fame (Marion) 5,000, New Cumberland Christmas Parade (Hancock) 3,000, New Cumberland Fourth of July Fireworks (Hancock) 5,000, New River Bridge Day Festival (Fayette) 40,000, Newburg Volunteer Fireman's Field Day (Preston) 1,000, Newell Annual Clay Festival (Hancock) 3,000, Nicholas County Fair 5,000, Nicholas County Potato Festival 3,500, Nicholas Old Main Foundation (Nicholas) 2,000, Norman Dillon Farm Museum (Berkeley) 10,000, North Preston Farmers Club - Civil War Times 1,000, North River Valley Festival (Hampshire) 1,000, Northern Preston Mule Pull and Farmers Days 4,000, Oak Leaf Festival (Fayette) 4,000, Oceana Heritage Festival (Wyoming) 6,000, Oglebay City Park - Festival of Lights (Ohio) 80,000, Oglebay Festival (Ohio) 10,000, Ohio County Fair 8,500, Ohio Valley Beef Association (Wood) 2,500, Old Central City Fair (Huntington) 5,000, Old Opera House Theater Company (Jefferson) 15,000, Old Tyme Christmas (Jefferson) 2,400, Paden City Labor Day Festival (Wetzel) 6,500, Parkersburg Arts Center 20,000, Parkersburg Homecoming (Wood) 12,000, Patty Fest 2,000, Paw Paw District Fair (Marion) 3,500, Pax Reunion Committee (Fayette) 5,000, Pendleton County 4-H Weekend 2,000, Pendleton County Committee for Arts 15,000, Pendleton County Fair 25,000, Pennsboro Country Road Festival (Ritchie) 2,000, Petersburg Fourth of July Celebration (Grant) 20,000, Petersburg HS Celebration (Grant) 10,000, Peterstown 4th of July Horse Show (Grant) 1,000, Piedmont-Annual Back Street Festival (Mineral) 4,000, Pinch Reunion (Kanawha) 1,500, Pine Bluff Fall Festival (Harrison) 4,000, Pine Grove 4th of July Festival (Wetzel) 5,000, Pineville Festival (Wyoming) 6,000, Pleasants County Agriculture Youth Fair 5,000, Poca Heritage Days (Putnam) 3,000, Pocahontas County Pioneer Days 7,000, Pocahontas Historic Opera House 6,000, Point Pleasant Stern Wheel Regatta (Mason) 5,000, Potomac Highlands Maple Festival (Grant) 6,000, Princeton Street Fair (Mercer) 5,000, Putnam County Fair 5,000, Quartets on Parade (Hardy) 4,000, Rainelle Fall Festival (Greenbrier) 3,000, Raleigh County All Wars Museum 10,000, Randolph County Community Arts Council 3,000, Randolph County Fair 7,000, Ranson Christmas Festival (Jefferson) 5,000, Ranson Festival (Jefferson) 5,000, Ravenswood Octoberfest (Jackson) 5,000, Ravenswood Ohio River Festival (Jackson) 3,000, Reedsville

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VFD Fair (Preston) 2,000, Renick Liberty Festival (Greenbrier) 1,000, Rhododendron Girls' State (Ohio) 10,000, Riders of the Flood (Greenbrier) 3,000, Ripley 4th of July (Jackson) 15,000, Ritchie County Fair and Exposition 5,000, Ritchie County Pioneer Days 1,000, Ritter Park Days (Cabell) 3,000, River Heritage Days - Speed Boat Race (Wetzel) 5,000, River Heritage Days Festival (Wetzel) 6,000, Riverfest (Marion) 2,000, Roane Co. 4-H and FFA Youth Livestock Program 5,000, Roane County Agriculture Field Day 3,000, Ronceverte River Festival (Greenbrier) 5,000, Rowlesburg Labor Day Festival (Preston) 1,000, Rupert Country Fling (Greenbrier) 3,000, Salem Apple Butter Festival (Harrison) 4,000, Scottish Heritage Society/N. Central WV Central 5,000, Sistersville 4th of July Fireworks (Wetzel) 5,500, Smoke on the Water (Kanawha) 2,000, Smoke on the Water (Wetzel) 3,000, Society for the Preservation of McGrew House (Preston) 3,500, Soldiers' Memorial Theater (Raleigh) 10,000, Southern Wayne County Fall Festival 1,000, Southern WV Veterans' Museum (Summers) 4,500, Spirit of Grafton Celebration (Taylor) 7,000, Spring Mountain Festival (Grant) 4,000, Springfield Peach Festival (Hampshire) 1,200, St. Albans City of Lights - December 5,000, St. Spyridon Greek Festival (Harrison) 2,500, Stoco Reunion (Raleigh) 2,500, Stonewall Jackson Heritage Arts and Crafts 11,000, Storytelling Festival (Lewis) 500, Strawberry Festival (Upshur) 30,000, Summers County Historic Landmark Commission 5,000, Taste of Parkersburg (Wood) 5,000, Taylor County Fair 5,500, Terra Alta VFD 4th of July Celebration (Preston) 1,000, Those Who Served War Museum (Mercer) 4,000, Three Rivers Avian Center (Summers) 15,000, Three Rivers Coal Festival (Marion) 7,750, Thunder on the Tygart - Mothers' Day Celebration 15,000, Town of Delbarton 4th of July Celebration 3,000, Town of Fayetteville Heritage Festival (Fayette) 7,500, Town of Matoka-annual Hog Roast (Mercer) 1,000, Treasure Mountain Festival (Pendleton) 25,000, Tri-County Fair (Grant) 15,000, Tucker County Arts Festival and Celebration 18,000, Tucker County Fair 4,750, Tucker County Health Fair 2,000, Tug Valley Arts Council (Mingo) 5,000, Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce Coal House (Mingo) 2,000, Tunnelton Depot Days (Preston) 1,000, Tunnelton Historical Society (Preston) 2,000, Turkey Festival (Hardy) 3,000, Tyler County Fair 5,200, Tyler County Fourth of July 500, Uniquely West Virginia Festival (Morgan) 2,000, Upper Ohio Valley Italian Festival (Ohio) 7,000, Upper West Fork Blue Grass Festival (Calhoun) 500, Upshur County Fair 7,000, Valley District Fair- Reedsville (Preston) 3,500, Veterans Welcome Home Celebration (Cabell) 3,000, Volcano Days at Mountwood Park (Wood) 5,000, War Homecoming Fall Festival 1,500, Wardensville Fall Festival (Hardy) 5,000, Wayne County Fair 5,000, Wayne County Fall Festival 5,000, Webb Chapel Cemetery Association Event (Preston) 2,000, Webster County Wood Chopping Festival 15,000, Webster Wild Water Weekend 2,000, Weirton July 4th Celebration (Hancock) 20,000, Wellsburg 4th of July Celebration (Brooke) 7,500, Wellsburg Apple Festival of Brooke County 5,000, West Virginia Autumn Festival (Braxton) 2,500, West Virginia Blackberry Festival (Harrison) 5,000, West Virginia Coal Festival (Boone) 10,000, West Virginia Dairy Cattle Show 10,000, West Virginia Dandelion Festival (Greenbrier) 5,000, West Virginia Fair and Exposition (Wood) 8,100, West Virginia Fireman's Rodeo (Fayette) 2,500, West Virginia Highland Games & Celtic Festival 3,000, West Virginia Honey Festival (Wood) 2,000, West Virginia Museum of Glass (Lewis) 5,000, West Virginia Oil and Gas Festival (Tyler)

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11,000, West Virginia Polled Hereford Assoc. 1,500, West Virginia Poultry Festival (Hardy) 5,000, West Virginia Pumpkin Festival (Cabell) 10,000, West Virginia Roundhouse Rail Days (Berkeley) 25,000, West Virginia State Folk Festival (Gilmer) 5,000, West Virginia Water Festival - City of Hinton (Summers) 16,000, West Virginia Wine & Jazz Festival (Monongalia) 9,000, West Virginia Wine and Arts Festival (Berkeley) 5,000, Weston VFD 4th of July Firemen Festival (Lewis) 2,000, Wetzel County Autumnfest 5,500, Wetzel County Town and Country Days 17,000, Wheeling Celtic Festival (Ohio) 2,000, Wheeling City of Lights (Ohio) 8,000, Wheeling Sternwheel Regatta (Ohio) 10,000, Wheeling Vintage Raceboat Regatta (Ohio) 20,000, Whipple Community Action (Fayette) 2,500, Whitesville - Big Coal River Festival (Boone) 4,000, Widen Days Festival (Calhoun) 2,000, Wileyville Homecoming (Wetzel) 4,000, Wine Festival and Mountain Music Event (Harrison) 5,000, Winter Festival of the Waters (Berkeley) 5,000, Wirt County Fair 2,500, Wirt County Pioneer Days 2,000, WV Music Hall Fame (Kanawha) 3,000, WV State Monarch Butterfly Festival (Brooke) 5,000, WV Strawberry Festival (horse pull) 2,500, YMCA Camp Horseshoe (Ohio) 100,000, Youth Museum of Southern WV (Raleigh) 12,000, Youth Stockman Beef Expo. (Lewis) 2,000, Z.D. Ramsdell House (Wayne) 4,500"

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's base budget. I believe that the Legislature can fairly fund Fairs and Festivals with the balance from the current year appropriation and with minor adjustments to the funding levels. Therefore, I am deleting any new items in the FY 2009 Budget and reducing any increases to the FY 2008 level of funding, as follows:

I am reducing the amount in the language on line 41 that directs "5,000" to the Alderson 4th of July Celebration (Greenbrier) to "3,000". I am deleting the language on line 61 through line 62 that reads "Battle of Lewisburg Civil War Days (Greenbrier) 3,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 71 that directs "10,000" to the Boone County Fair to "6,500". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 75 that directs "3,500" to the Brooke County Fair to "2,500". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 86 that directs "1,000" to the Cedarville Town Festival (Gilmer) to "500". I am deleting the language on line 96 through line 97 that reads "Chester Fourth of July Festivities (Hancock) 5,000". I am deleting the language on line 99 through line 100 that reads "Christmas in the Park (Brooke) 5,000". I am deleting the language on line 101 through line 102 that reads "City of Pinegrove Centennial Celebration (Wetzel) 5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 111 that directs "3,500" to the Delbarton Homecoming (Mingo) to "2,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 122 that directs "8,250" to the Follansbee Community Days (Brooke) to "7,250". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 125 that directs "5,000" to the Frankford Autumnfest (Greenbrier) to "3,000". I am deleting the language on line 126 through line 127 that reads "Freshwater Folk Festival (Greenbrier) 5,000". I am deleting the language on line 128 that reads "Frontier Days (Harrison) 3,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 133 that directs "4,000" to the Gilbert Kiwanis Harvest Festival (Mingo) to "3,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 134 that directs "4,000" to the Gilmer County Farm Show to "3,500". I am deleting the language on line 137 through line 138 that reads "Great Greenbrier River Race (Pocahontas)

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50,000". I am deleting the language on line 143 that reads "Hampshire County 4th of July Celebration 20,000". I am deleting the language on line 149 through line 150 that reads "Hatfield McCoy Matewan Reunion Festival (Mingo) 5,000". I am deleting the language on line 153 through line 154 that reads "Heritage Craft Festival (Monroe) 1,000". I am deleting the language on line 163 through line 164 that reads "Hurricane 4th of July Celebration (Putnam) 5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 170 that directs "30,000" to the Italian Heritage Festival-Clarksburg (Harrison) to "25,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 186 that directs "5,000" to the King Coal Festival (Mingo) to "4,000". I am deleting the language on line 187 through line 188 that reads "L.Z. Rainelle WV Veterans Reunion (Greenbrier) 5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 191 that directs "10,000" to the Larry Joe Harless Center Octoberfest Hatfield McCoy Trail (Mingo) to "5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 201 that directs "15,000" to the Logan Freedom Festival to "10,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 210 that directs "6,000" to the Matewan Massacre Reenactment (Mingo) to "5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 211 that directs "45,000" to the Matewan-Magnolia Fair (Mingo) to "20,000". I am deleting the language on line 224 through line 225 that reads "Monroe County Harvest Festival 2,000, Morgan County Fair History Wagon 1,500". I am deleting the language on line 240 through line 241 that reads "New Cumberland Christmas Parade (Hancock) 3,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 243 that directs "40,000" to the New River Bridge Day Festival (Fayette) to "35,000". I am deleting the language on line 245 that reads "Nicholas County Fair 5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 253 that directs "80,000" to the Olgebay City Park - Festival of Lights (Ohio) to "75,000". I am reducing the amount in the language in line 254 that directs "10,000" to the Oglebay Festival (Ohio) to "5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language in line 290 that directs "5,000" to the Ritchie County Fair and Exposition to "2,000". I am reducing the amount in the language in line 296 that directs "5,000" to the Ronceverte River Festival (Greenbrier) to "3,000". I am deleting the language on line 302 through line 303 that reads "Society for the Preservation of McGrew House (Preston) 3,500". I am deleting the language on line 309 through line 310 that reads "St. Spyridon Greek Festival (Harrison) 2,500". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 313 that directs "30,000" to the Strawberry Festival (Upshur) to "20,000". I am deleting the language on line 314 through line 315 that reads "Taste of Parkersburg (Wood) 5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 320 that directs "15,000" to the Thunder on the Tygart - Mothers' Day Celebration to "5,000". I am deleting the language on line 321 through line 322 that reads "Town of Fayetteville Heritage Festival (Fayette) 7,500". I am deleting the language on line 337 that reads "Veterans Welcome Home Celebration (Cabell) 3,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 343 that directs "15,000" to the Webster County Wood Chopping Festival to "4,500". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 345 that directs "20,000" to the Weirton July 4th Celebration (Hancock) to "3,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 346 that directs "7,500" to the Wellsburg 4th of July Celebration (Brooke) to "6,500". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 349 that directs "10,000" to the West Virginia Coal Festival (Boone) to "7,000". I am deleting the language on line 350 through line 351 that reads "West Virginia Dandelion Festival (Greenbrier) 5,000". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 359 that directs "10,000" to the West Virginia Pumpkin Festival (Cabell) to "7,500". I am reducing the amount in the language on line 361 that directs "5,000" to the West Virginia State Folk Festival (Gilmer) to "4,500".

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My thirty-second objection to the Bill is contained in Item 252, page 169, line 3, which states:

“Grants to Public Libraries 182 9,348,884”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. Due to this concern, no more than a conservative increase to this line item is appropriate at this time. Therefore, I am reducing the appropriation by the amount of \$1,000,000, to \$8,348,884, which nevertheless yields an increase of \$1,000,000 over the prior budget year.

My thirty-third objection to the Bill is contained in Item 253, page 170, line 9 and line 10, which states:

“Senior Citizen Centers and Programs (R) 462 3,100,000”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. In recent years, the total funding for the Bureau of Senior Services has grown substantially. The Lottery Act mandates that Lottery Fund profits be allocated only for seniors, education and tourism. With my budgetary recommendations for this year, seniors will receive in excess of one-third of the Lottery Fund projected profits. In addition, table game licensing revenue is projected to be \$6,500,000 in FY 2009, an increase of \$3,500,000, all of which will be utilized to fund senior programs. While remaining committed to funding senior citizen programs, I am reducing the above appropriation by the amount of \$500,000, to \$2,600,000 to maintain the FY 2008 funding level for this appropriation.

My thirty-fourth objection to the Bill is contained in Item 253, page 170, line 27, which states:

“WV Senior Corps 493 250,000”

Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State’s base budget. In recent years, the total funding for the Bureau of Senior Services has grown substantially, however, it is not prudent to institute a new program at this time. While I remain sincerely committed to senior programs, I am reducing the appropriation in the amount of \$250,000, to \$0.

My thirty-fifth objection to the Bill is contained in the language found in Item 253, page 170 through page 171, line 34 through line 37, which states:

“From the above appropriation for Senior Citizen Centers and Programs (fund 5405, activity 462) \$500,000 is for emergency needs as determined by the Commissioner of Senior Services.”


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Being acutely aware of the national economy and of the budget deficits currently facing many other states, it is imperative that a cautious and prudent approach is taken to avoid building the State's base budget. With minor adjustments to the funding requests, adequate funding for these types of needs is available in the prior year balance and at the current level budget. While remaining committed to senior programs, I am eliminating the additional funding of \$500,000 for the Senior Citizen Centers and Programs. Therefore, I am deleting in its entirety line 34 through line 37.

For the reasons stated herein, I have approved, with the above objections, Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 150.

Sincerely,



Joe Manchin-III
Governor

JMIII:jr

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DEBRA JONES
SECRETARY OF STATE