



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

June 30, 2015

TO THE HONORABLE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill 1192, Printer's Number 1959.

The citizens of Pennsylvania sent us here to do serious work and to address the problems facing this Commonwealth. This includes enacting a plan that contains fair and adequate education funding in part by implementing a commonsense severance tax, property tax relief to Pennsylvania families and seniors, a solution to fix the structural budget deficit, and a sound plan to create jobs across this Commonwealth. This bill fails to accomplish these essential tasks, so I cannot give it my approval.

This legislation falls short of a budget that I can endorse for the above broad and the following specific reasons. This budget is not balanced. If enacted, it will increase the deficit to over \$3 billion. That is irresponsible and it will lead to continued credit downgrades and fiscal crises. This budget fails to adequately pay our bills or plan for the future. It includes over \$1.5 billion in one-time revenues, payment delays into the next fiscal year, and fund transfers.

This budget does not restore the education cuts enacted over the last four years, nor does it provide adequate funding to ensure Pennsylvanians have schools that teach our children. Fixing our schools is the top priority for Pennsylvanians, but this budget invests only an additional \$8 million in our schools. This budget fails our children from early childhood to higher education. The budget proposal that I delivered to the General Assembly would have enabled at least 14,000 additional children to enroll in Pre-K programs and ensured that our superb institutions of higher education would not have to pass their increased costs on to students. This budget fails to meet any of these important needs.

For the foregoing reasons, I must withhold my signature from House Bill 1192, Printer's Number 1959.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Wolf".

TOM WOLF
Governor