

2015 SEP 29 AM I COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR HARRISBURG

SEUBETHE FOR

THE GOVERNOR

September 29, 2015

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 15 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill 1000 Printer's Number 1232.

The citizens of Pennsylvania want more than half measures, and they deserve better than the status quo. They sent us here to do serious work, to address the problems facing this Commonwealth, and to create a blueprint for the future of Pennsylvania.

This temporary General Appropriation bill fails to provide the long-term investment in Pennsylvania's future that this Commonwealth needs. It is an avoidance maneuver that fails to adequately fund education and locks in the same damaging cuts to human service programs included in House Bill 1192. For these reasons, I cannot give this bill my approval.

The people of Pennsylvania deserve a structurally balanced budget. They deserve investment in education and for oil and gas companies to pay their fair share. And they deserve relief from rising property taxes. In short, they deserve better.

I have come to the table offering real compromise, including a lease of our wine and spirits system, more than \$20 billion in pension reform savings, and significant cuts to proposed spending levels.

I urge the Legislature to come back to the bargaining table and to work with me to pass a comprehensive, structurally balanced budget with adequate education funding, a commonsense severance tax, property tax relief for Pennsylvania families and seniors, and a sound plan to create jobs across this Commonwealth.

For these reasons, I cannot support this bill and withhold my signature from Senate Bill 1000 Printer's Number 1232.

Sincerely,

TOM WOL

Governor