



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

October 28, 2016

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

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 15 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill 1618, Printer's Number 4068.

As it is a tool utilized effectively in the private sector, I strongly believe that an internal watchdog is vital to ensuring the proper functioning of the executive branch. Every organization – regardless of public or private sector – benefits from having an internal watchdog who identifies issues or areas of concern before they become larger problems at a later point in time. Therefore, if the Office of Inspector General (OIG) becomes an independent agency, as provided under this legislation, I will be forced to establish a replacement entity to perform the tasks now undertaken by OIG. This would result in wasteful spending as both the Auditor General and Office of Attorney General already perform the functions that an independent OIG would under this legislation. This needless duplication of government services, along with unnecessary expenditures, does not amount to sound government policy. As a result, this bill should not be allowed to become the law of this Commonwealth.

For the reasons set forth above, I must withhold my signature from House Bill 1618, Printer's Number 4068.

Sincerely,

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

TOM WOLF  
Governor