

Veto #4



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

2018 OCT 25 AM 9:30

PA. CODE & BULLETIN

THE GOVERNOR

October 24, 2018

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 2157, Printer's Number 3278.

2018 OCT 24 PM 1:25  
RECEIVED  
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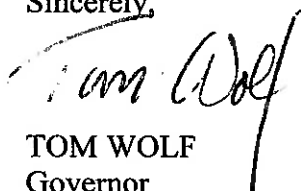
Career Technical Education is a critical pathway into viable, quality jobs across the Commonwealth. My administration and the Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence have been working to increase educational and workforce opportunities in the agricultural industry for the people of the Commonwealth. This legislation, however, reduces those efforts.

This legislation renders certain agricultural education programs ineligible for state and federal funding. Specifically, the Pennsylvania Department of Education is the single state agency that is federally authorized to approve these programs. Last year, my administration distributed approximately \$57,000,000 in state Career and Technical Education funding to schools across the Commonwealth. By removing program approval authority from the department, this bill would impair those schools' ability to receive this funding and would eliminate funding for agricultural education programs approved under this bill's provisions. In addition, the bill would require schools that currently receive Federal Perkins funding for Agriculture Education programs to forego such funds, costing those schools \$6,345,299.

My administration proposed amendatory language that would have maintained this funding, and would have thus ensured that schools across the Commonwealth could continue to provide quality agricultural education programs; however, the General Assembly chose not to consider this proposal.

For the reasons set forth above, I must withhold my signature from House Bill 2157, Printer's Number 3278.

Sincerely,

  
TOM WOLF  
Governor



Attest:



Ian J. Harlow  
Acting Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs