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Governor



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To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning, without my approval as to Section 4, Senate Bill 6818 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to transparency in state expenditures."

Section 4 of this bill would have the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program prepare and post to the web a presentation about school funding programs and categories. The Joint Task Force on Basic Education is currently reviewing basic education funding, and will produce a recommendation for a new K-12 funding framework for consideration by the Legislature during the 2009 session. One of the criteria for the new funding system is that it be more transparent. Because the categories and cost allocations specified in Section 4 will be outdated and need to be changed very soon, I am concerned that this provision could cause more, rather than less, confusion about how the state funds K-12 education.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 4 of Senate Bill 6818.

With the exception of Section 4, Senate Bill 6818 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor