

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 40002 · Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 · (360) 902-4111 · www.governor.wa.gov

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To the Honorable Speaker and Members,
The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning, without my approval as to Section 40, Fourth Substitute House Bill 1103 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to health professions."

This bill ensures that all health care providers in Washington State are well-qualified by strengthening the state's standards for credentialing and disciplining providers.

Section 40 is an emergency clause. Fourth Substitute House Bill 1103 increases the authority of regulators to remove health care practitioners who pose a risk to the public but does not necessitate an emergency clause. An emergency clause is to be used where it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety or whenever it is essential for the support of state government. I do not believe that an emergency clause is needed.

For this reason, I have vetoed Section 40 of Fourth Substitute House Bill 1103.

With the exception of Section 40, Fourth Substitute House Bill 1103 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor