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Governor



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April 29, 2011

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 2, Substitute House Bill 1663 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to the purchasing authority of institutions of higher education."

This bill removes higher education institutions from the requirement to seek approval from the Office of Financial Management to be exempted from certain purchasing from the Department of Corrections. Section 2 of this bill is an emergency clause that is not necessary. Higher education institutions have been exceeding the minimum 2% purchase target from Correctional Industries, and there is no need for the bill to go into effect immediately.

For this reason, I have vetoed Section 2 of Substitute House Bill 1663.

With the exception of Section 2, Substitute House Bill 1663 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Christine O. Gregoire
Governor