



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
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EARL RAY TOMBLIN
GOVERNOR

March 3, 2016

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Tim Armstead
Speaker, West Virginia House of Delegates
Room 228M, Building 1
State Capitol Complex
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Re: Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill 4145

Dear Speaker Armstead:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return the Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill 4145. This bill authorizes, among other things, United States citizens or legal residents of at least twenty-one years of age to carry a concealed deadly weapon without a license, provided they are not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law. Law enforcement officers throughout West Virginia have voiced overwhelming opposition to this bill. In light of their concerns and in the interest of public safety, the exercise of my veto power is appropriate.

Further, I wish to point out that the tax credit provision in § 61-7-4(r) is ill-advised and unclear. See p. 9, lines 165-168. Not only will the tax credit have a negative fiscal impact on the state's budget, it will be difficult for the State Tax Department to administer. For example, the tax credit provision fails to identify the tax to which it applies, whether the credit is refundable, and whether it is a one-time credit or may be claimed in subsequent years.

In view of the foregoing, I hereby disapprove and return the Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill 4145.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Earl Ray Tomblin".

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

cc: The Hon. William P. Cole III
President of the Senate

The Hon. Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State