



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1900 KANAWHA BOULEVARD, EAST  
CHARLESTON, WV 25305  
(304) 558-2000

EARL RAY TOMBLIN  
GOVERNOR

April 1, 2016

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable Natalie E. Tennant  
Secretary of State  
State of West Virginia  
Building 1, Suite 157-K  
State Capitol  
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 272

Dear Secretary of State Tennant:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove the Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 272. This bill authorizes the Attorney General to allow designated investigators in his employ to carry a firearm in the course of performing their official duties. Likewise, it authorizes the Commissioner of the Alcohol Beverage Control Administration ("ABCA") to designate certain employees of its Enforcement Division to carry a firearm. Per statutory authorization, ABCA's Enforcement Division utilizes State Police assistance, where necessary, in issuing citations; its employees do not require firearms in carrying-out their official duties. ABCA has advised me it opposes this bill. In the interests of public safety, it is hereby vetoed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Earl Ray Tomblin".

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

cc: The Hon. Tim Armstead  
Speaker of the House of Delegates

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