



Jim Justice
Governor of West Virginia

March 28, 2018

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Mac Warner
Secretary of State
Building 1, Suite 157-K
State Capitol
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

RE: Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 313

Dear Secretary Warner:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section Fourteen, Article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 313.

Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 313 exempts all licensure fees for three groups of individuals: low income individuals, military families and young workers (ages 18 – 25). This exemption applies to all licensing boards included in WV Code Chapter 30 and apply to all licensing fees for the board, as long as the applicant continues to meet the exemption.

Although the intentions behind this bill were noble, the implementation of the exemptions are overly broad by incorporating an exemption for a group of young workers (age 18-25), who are applying for a professional license and beginning what could be a very lucrative career. Allowing an exemption for this group does not serve the laudable goals that the bill intended.

In addition, the fees that would be waived by this bill make up a substantial component of their annual budget, which is used for the oversight, investigation and discipline of the license holders. If a board's budget is reduced by the waiving of these licensing fees, it will damage the public safety efforts that the board is charged with instituting.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

For these reasons, I must disapprove and return Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 313.

Sincerely,



Jim Justice
Governor

cc: The Honorable Mitch Carmichael
President of the Senate

The Honorable Tim Armstead
Speaker of the House of Delegates