



Jim Justice
Governor of West Virginia

March 27, 2019

VIA HAND DELIVERY

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

RE: Enrolled Senate Bill 440

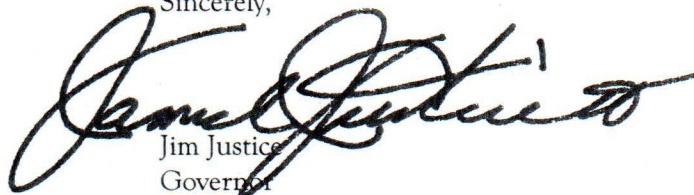
Dear Secretary Warner:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section Fourteen, Article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled Senate Bill No. 440.

I applaud the Legislature for tackling the issue of hazing at our universities, however the language included in this bill is overly broad and encompasses numerous organizations outside of the higher education community. For example, the following broad language appearing in the definitions of the bill: "any organization whose members include students of an institution of higher education," could include organizations such as the West Virginia Legislature or the American Civil Liberties Union, if any of their members were enrolled in classes at an institution of higher education in the state.

I believe Enrolled Senate Bill 440 contains overly-general language that encompasses a greater number of organizations than intended. For this reason, I must disapprove and return Enrolled Senate Bill No. 440. However, I encourage the Legislature to revisit the issue in the next Regular Session.

Sincerely,



Jim Justice
Governor

cc: The Honorable Mitch Carmichael
President of the Senate
The Honorable Roger Hanshaw
Speaker of the House of Delegates