



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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EARL RAY TOMBLIN  
GOVERNOR

February 11, 2016

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable William P. Cole III  
President, West Virginia Senate  
Room 229M, Building 1  
State Capitol  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Re: Enrolled Senate Bill 1

Dear President Cole:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled Senate Bill 1 for public policy reasons.

I dispute that West Virginia needs a "right to work" law. The issue of "right to work" has been discussed for several years, but I have never had a company cite "right to work" as a barrier to relocating in West Virginia. We do not lack prospects. Our issues are best addressed by improving our workforce and creating new development opportunities. Since I became governor in 2010, West Virginia has welcomed more than \$10 billion in new investments and expansion projects. A "right to work" law will lead to little if any economic growth and may lower the wages of West Virginia workers.

For the foregoing reasons, I disapprove and return the bill.

Sincerely,

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

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

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

The Hon. Natalie E. Tennant  
Secretary of State