

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CHARLESTON

March 28, 2008

The Honorable Betty Ireland
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Secretary Ireland:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14, Article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled Senate Bill No. 606.

This bill relates to a hiring preference that county boards of education extend to certain professional educators when filling summer school teaching positions. Under current law, an educator who is currently employed by the county board is given an employment preference over other applicants. Given the compelling need to fill teaching positions during the long summer months, the public policy rationale underlying the Code in its current form is well-founded, giving county boards the ability to draw from a broad pool of full-time and substitute educators to fill these critical positions.

Insofar as this bill would modify this existing hiring preference -- and potentially hamstring local boards in filling its teaching positions -- I must object. For this reason, I must veto

this legislation.

Very truly yours,

Joe Manchin III,

Governor.

cc: The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin

The Honorable Richard Thompson