

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Charleston, WV 25305

May 8, 2009

The Honorable Richard Thompson
Speaker
West Virginia House of Delegates
State Capitol
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Speaker Thompson:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section Fourteen, Article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled House Bill No. 2920.

The Bill repeals West Virginia Code §61-11-20, which makes the second conviction for petit larcency a felony punishable by one year in prison. The Bill also increases the penalty for being an accessory after the fact to certain crimes, including first or second degree murder, voluntary manslaughter, and assault or batter. Although I support the intent of this legislation, the Bill does not contain an enacting section and therefore is constitutionally invalid. Accordingly, I must veto Enrolled House Bill No. 2920.

Very truly yours,

JOE MANCHIN, III
Governor.