



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

April 1, 2015

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State
Building 1, Suite 157-K
State Capitol
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0770

Re: Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2240

Dear Secretary of State Tennant:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove the Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2240. This bill seeks to establish that strangulation is a criminal offense. However, there are numerous criminal offenses in the West Virginia Code that already prohibit and punish strangulation. *See, e.g.*, W. Va. Code §§ 61-2-9 (malicious or unlawful assault; assault; battery) and 61-2-28 (domestic violence). I disapprove this bill because it is duplicative of existing law.

Sincerely,

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

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

cc: The Hon. William P. Cole III
President of the Senate

The Hon. Tim Armstead
Speaker of the House of Delegates