



*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 Committee Substitute for House Bill 2503

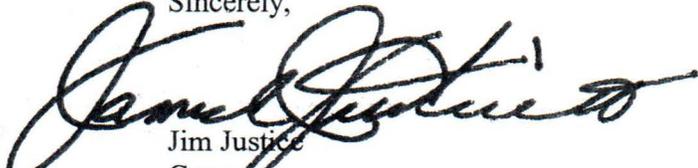
Dear Secretary Warner:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill 2674. This bill would require a petition alleging abuse or neglect of a child to name each parent, guardian, or custodian and to specifically state which are alleged to have abused or neglected the child, and would make provision for counsel to be provided in such hearings, among other things.

While I certainly appreciate the intent of this bill, the bill is technically flawed because its title is defective. *See State ex rel. Davis v. Oakley*, 156 W.Va. 154, 191 S.E.2d 610 (1972) (requiring bill titles to provide notice of a bill's contents). Specifically, the title provides that the bill requires "that notice be given by courts that a hearing required by subsection (a) of this section has been held." It is unclear to what subsection that title provision is meant to relate as the bill amends two different sections, neither of which specifically provides for a hearing under their respective subsections (a).

As a result of this flaw, I must disapprove and return Enrolled Committee Substitute for House Bill 2503, and would welcome a similar bill to be submitted in a subsequent legislative session to correct the error noted above.

Sincerely,



Jim Justice  
Governor

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