

JAY INSLEE  
Governor



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April 30, 2019

To the Honorable President and Members,  
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 2, Senate Bill No. 5022 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to granting binding interest arbitration rights to certain higher education uniformed personnel.”

This bill establishes interest arbitration for uniformed personnel, which is defined as sworn police officers employed as a member of a police force established by state universities, regional universities, or the Evergreen State College. Section 2 amends current law and exempts such arbitration awards from submission to the Office of Financial Management to be certified as financially feasible. This could result in requiring the governor to include funds necessary to implement the award in his/her budget regardless of whether it was financially feasible.

Although I support granting interest arbitration to uniformed personnel, it is important to ensure that any award from interest arbitration must be submitted for certification of financial feasibility before being included in the governor’s budget proposal. This check and balance on arbitration awards protects the governor’s discretion in developing future budget proposals.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 2 of Senate Bill No. 5022.

With the exception of Section 2, Senate Bill No. 5022 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Jay Inslee  
Governor