

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 902-4111 • www.governor.wa.gov

March 31, 2022

To the Honorable Speaker and Members, The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 1, Substitute House Bill No. 1655 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to having safety rest areas open to the public as soon as possible."

Section 1 describes the important role that rest stops provide to help truck drivers rest and operate safely. However, it overlooks that the rest stop closures were due to a variety of reasons, including the lack of security and safety for truckers, the public, and the employees at those rest stops. A similar budget proviso in Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5689 properly reflects the need to address security at certain rest stops in order for them to ensure the safety of these facilities. In addition, Section 1 is not necessary to implement the policies set forth in the bill.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 1 of Substitute House Bill No. 1655.

With the exception of Section 1, Substitute House Bill No. 1655 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Inslee

Governor