

JAY INSLEE
Governor



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March 25, 2022

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 Sections 207(24) and 206(17), Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5689 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to transportation funding and appropriations.”

Section 207(24), page 28, Washington State Patrol, Unfunded Pilot

This section directs the Washington State Patrol to oversee a pilot program that allows registered tow truck operators to respond to a regional transit authority’s request for impoundment of unauthorized vehicles in a right-of-way used by the transit authority. The proviso also requires the State Patrol to submit a report on the outcomes of the pilot program by July 1, 2023. No funding was provided in the budget to support this work. For this reason, I have vetoed Section 207(24).

Section 216(17), page 57, Department of Transportation, Unfunded Pilot

This section directs the Department of Transportation to conduct a pilot program allowing commercial motor vehicles to park in areas designated as chain up and chain off areas along U.S. Route 2 and Interstate 90 between May 1 and November 1 of each calendar year of the biennium. I strongly support providing adequate parking facilities and rest areas for truck drivers who are a vital link in our state’s supply chains. However, the timeframe of the pilot program and need for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approval on one of the highways included in the pilot does not give the department adequate time to address all of the safety and maintenance concerns and to meet any FHWA requirements prior to implementation of the pilot. Although I have vetoed this section, I am directing the department to develop options and recommendations to address truck parking and rest area shortages while ensuring necessary safety and maintenance standards are upheld. For this reason, I have vetoed Section 216(17).

For these reasons I have vetoed Sections 207(24) and 206(17) of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5689.

With the exception of Sections 207(24) and 206(17), Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5689 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Jay Inslee
Governor