



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— **OFFICE OF GOVERNOR BOB FERGUSON** —

May 20, 2025

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

Esteemed Colleagues:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 12, Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1131 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to clemency and pardons."

This bill expands the membership of the clemency and pardons board, makes board members eligible for compensation, and makes changes to the board's process of reviewing applications and other functions. Section 12 makes the bill null and void if specific funding is not provided for the bill. Because the Legislature did not provide specific funding in the omnibus operating budget for implementing this bill, I am vetoing Section 12 to ensure this act goes into effect. I intend to seek the necessary funding to support the work contemplated by this legislation in the next budget.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 12 of Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1131.

With the exception of Section 12, Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1131 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Ferguson
Governor