

This is to advise you that on this date, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Section 12 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to approve or object to legislation presented to me, I have VETOED House Bill 1223. I have vetoed this bill because there is not yet an overall budget framework. Moreover, approving this legislation would be a meaningless gesture even if a budget framework was in place since this individual agency appropriation does not include an emergency clause and would not go into effect when the fiscal year begins on July 1, thereby causing a budget gap and fiscal chaos for the agency. Therefore, this bill cannot be used to implement a timely budget, and it would be irresponsible to approve and sign it.