

APPROPRIATIONS; SCHOOL AID

July 7, 2010

Today I have signed Enrolled Senate Bill 1163, the school aid budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011. However, I have disapproved several appropriations in the bill, as authorized by Section 19 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution. The specific item vetoes are detailed in the attached copy of the bill, which has been filed with the Secretary of State.

The completion of the school aid budget together with the passage of retirement reform legislation will provide schools with the financial certainty needed to adjust budgets early in the school fiscal year. All districts will receive a modest \$11 per pupil increase. This budget also recognizes the importance of early childhood education by adding \$2.6 million in funding for Great Start school readiness programs, which will provide 760 additional slots for students to enroll in the programs. In total, Enrolled Senate Bill 1163 appropriates over \$12.8 billion for fiscal year 2011 to support K-12 education in Michigan.

I have disapproved the following proposed appropriations that earmark funding for new programs: sections 22e(6), 92, and 99p. I cannot support such special earmarks when a per-pupil reduction is still in effect for all schools.

I have also disapproved several proposed appropriations which are contingent upon passage of legislation to increase state revenues: sections 20(25), 20j, and 32c. Given the overall severe budgetary problems we are facing, spending decisions should be made at the point the Legislature actually enacts legislation to increase revenues.

I thank the Legislature for their hard work on behalf of Michigan's children.

Respectfully,

Jennifer M. Granholm

Governor