



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0090

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

May 3, 2016

The Honorable Casey Cagle
Lieutenant Governor
240 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

The Honorable David Ralston
Speaker of the Georgia House
of Representatives
332 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Gentlemen:

Please be advised that I have line-item vetoed the appropriations below and identified language to disregard for the following sections in House Bill 751:

Vetoed:

Section 51, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 141, line 4328; and

Non-Binding Information Language to Disregard:

Section 23, pertaining to the Department of Economic Development, page 51, line 1630;

Section 25, pertaining to the Employees' Retirement System, page 61, line 1948;

Section 25, pertaining to the Employees' Retirement System, page 61, line 1949;

Section 31, pertaining to the Department of Juvenile Justice, page 82, line 2648;

Section 41, pertaining to the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, page 107, line 3471;

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 137, line 4282;

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 137, line 4288; and

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 139, line 4309.



The Honorable Casey Cagle
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The messages for each item referenced are attached.

Sincerely,

Nathan Deal

Nathan Deal

ND:rb

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Brian Kemp, Secretary of State
The Honorable Sam Olens, Attorney General
The Honorable Jack Hill, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Terry England, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
Mr. David A. Cook, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Bill Reilly, Clerk of the Georgia House of Representatives
Mr. Wayne R. Allen, Legislative Counsel



HB 751 – FY 2017 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

LINE-ITEM VETOES BY THE GOVERNOR

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 141, Line 4328:

This language authorizes the appropriation of \$138,840 in debt service to finance projects and facilities for the Department of Community Affairs, specifically for the construction of a seawall on Hutchinson Island in Savannah, through the issuance of \$600,000 in five year taxable bonds. Article VII, Section IV, Paragraph I (c) requires that general obligation debt may only be issued to “acquire, construct, develop, extend, enlarge, or improve land, waters, property, highways, buildings, structures, equipment, or facilities of the state.” In this instance, the state does not have ownership of the land identified for the seawall, and thus is prohibited from using general obligation debt to finance this project. Therefore, I veto this language (page 141, line 4328) in the provisions relative to Section 50 State of Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund and the state general funds of \$138,840.

INTENT LANGUAGE CONSIDERED NON-BINDING

Section 23, pertaining to the Department of Economic Development, page 51, line 1630:

The General Assembly seeks to appropriate \$100,000 for the National Infantry Museum by only reducing funding by \$400,000. Program funding should be used to promote tourism in accordance with the highest priorities of the state. Therefore, the Department is authorized to utilize the remaining \$100,000 in accordance with the purpose of the program and the general law powers of the Department.

Section 23, pertaining to the Department of Economic Development, page 51, line 1633:

The General Assembly seeks to appropriate \$100,000 for the Georgia Historical Society. Program funding should be used to promote tourism in accordance with the highest priorities of the state. Therefore, the Department is authorized to operate the program in accordance with the purpose of the program and the general law powers of the Department.

Section 25, pertaining to the Employees’ Retirement System, page 61, line 1948:

The General Assembly seeks to appropriate \$455,000 to provide retirement benefits to appellate court judges upon reaching the age of 60. Legislation providing authorization for this benefit did not pass during the 2016 legislative



session. Therefore, the Department is authorized to operate the program in accordance with the purpose of the program and the general law powers of the Department.

Section 25, pertaining to the Employees' Retirement System, page 61, line 1949:

The General Assembly seeks to appropriate \$50,000 to provide for an increase in the employer's share for the Judicial Retirement System. The Department is authorized to operate the program in accordance with the purpose of the program and the general law powers of the Department.

Section 41, pertaining to the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, page 107, line 3471:

The General Assembly seeks to appropriate \$25,000 for the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia to assist in the operations of the DeKalb County Charter Review Commission in the Teaching program. Local legislation creating the review commission did not pass during the 2016 legislative session. Therefore, the Department is authorized to operate the program in accordance with the purpose of the program and the general law powers of the Department.

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 137, line 4282:

The General Assembly seeks to instruct the Department of Community Supervision to "begin moving towards a ten year replacement cycle" in the conference report that reduced the bond amounts. This language is inconsistent with the state's purchase and use of motor vehicle policy under O.C.G.A. Section 45-12-73. The policy creates a framework for agencies to utilize to ensure the safety and insurability of the state's motor vehicles. The policy further outlines the framework for agencies to determine the replacement schedule of motor vehicles, depending upon their use and type of vehicle. The effect of changing the framework to a 10 year cycle of replacement potentially impacts the safety and operations of the vehicles, particularly those whose recommended replacement is based primarily on mileage. Therefore, the department is authorized to continue to plan on replacement cycles consistent with the state policy and to utilize the bond appropriations for the number of vehicles available for the amount of funds appropriated.

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 137, line, 4288:

The General Assembly seeks to instruct the Department of Corrections to "begin moving towards a ten year replacement cycle" in the conference report that reduced the bond amounts. This language is inconsistent with the state's purchase and use of motor vehicle policy under O.C.G.A. Section 45-12-73. The policy creates a framework for agencies to utilize to ensure the safety and insurability of



the state's motor vehicles. The policy further outlines the framework for agencies to determine the replacement schedule of motor vehicles, depending upon their use and type of vehicle. The effect of changing the framework to a 10 year cycle of replacement potentially impacts the safety and operations of the vehicles, particularly those whose recommended replacement is based primarily on mileage. Therefore, the department is authorized to continue to plan on replacement cycles consistent with the state policy and to utilize the bond appropriations for the number of vehicles available for the amount of funds appropriated.

Section 50, pertaining to the Georgia General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund, page 139, line 4309:

The General Assembly seeks to instruct the Department of Juvenile Justice to "begin moving towards a ten year replacement cycle" in the conference report that reduced the bond amounts. This language is inconsistent with the state's purchase and use of motor vehicle policy under O.C.G.A. Section 45-12-73. The policy creates a framework for agencies to utilize to ensure the safety and insurability of the state's motor vehicles. The policy further outlines the framework for agencies to determine the replacement schedule of motor vehicles, depending upon their use and type of vehicle. The effect of changing the framework to a 10 year cycle of replacement potentially impacts the safety and operations of the vehicles, particularly those whose recommended replacement is based primarily on mileage. Therefore, the department is authorized to continue to plan on replacement cycles consistent with the state policy and to utilize the bond appropriations for the number of vehicles available for the amount of funds appropriated.