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EARL RAY TOMBLIN
GOVERNOR

March 9, 2016

VIA HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable William P. Cole III
President, West Virginia Senate
Room 229M, Building 1
State Capitol
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Re: Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 10

Dear President Cole:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return the Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 10.

I am advised this bill is overbroad and unduly burdens a woman's fundamental constitutional right to privacy. *See Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833, 879 (1992) (holding a state "may not prohibit any woman from making the ultimate decision to terminate her pregnancy before viability"). Among the bill's prohibitions is a leading pre-viability medical procedure (the "dilation & evacuation" method) that, for reasons of patient safety, is preferred by physicians. The Supreme Court of the United States and the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia previously struck down similarly overbroad laws that unduly burdened a woman's right to choose this procedure. *See Stenberg v. Carhart*, 530 U.S. 914 (2000); *Daniel v. Underwood*, 102 F.Supp.2d 680 (S. D. W. Va. 2000) (declaring sections of WV's Women's Access to Health Care Act to be unconstitutional; ban at issue encompassed the common "dilation & evacuation" method and thus unduly burdened a woman's constitutional right of privacy). In these circumstances, a veto is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

cc: The Hon. Tim Armstead
Speaker of the House of Delegates

The Hon. Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State