STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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CHARLESTON, WV 25305
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EARL RAY TOMBLIN
GOVERNOR

April 1, 2016

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State
State of West Virginia
Building 1, Suite 157-K
State Capitol
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Enrolled House Bill 4246

Dear Secretary of State Tennant:

Pursuant to the provisions of section fourteen, article VII of the Constitution of West Virginia, I hereby disapprove and return Enrolled House Bill 4246. This bill provides for a special act that, among other things, changes the essential character of a public library corporation established by the City of Martinsburg in Berkeley County, West Virginia. Martinsburg's mayor has advised me the city opposes this bill's intrusion on city affairs. To the extent that a change in the public library corporation is desired, it should be negotiated between the interested local parties (*i.e.*, the city, the county commission, and the county board of education) rather than dictated by the Legislature. I veto this bill because it infringes on local decision-making and may very well violate W. Va. Const. Art. VI, § 39 (prohibiting local and special laws that regulate or change county or district affairs).

Sincerely,

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

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

The Hon. William P. Cole III
President of the Senate