



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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CHARLESTON, WV 25305  
(304) 558-2000

EARL RAY TOMBLIN  
GOVERNOR

March 15, 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 Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 254

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 the Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 254. This bill would bar county parks and recreation commissions from promulgating or enforcing rules and regulations prohibiting the possession of firearms. I believe counties are in a better position than the Legislature to evaluate local issues and determine whether firearm prohibitions in county parks and recreation areas are appropriate. Accordingly, I veto this bill in deference to county judgment on matters of public safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Earl Ray Tomblin".

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