

STATE OF WASHINGTON — Office of Governor Jay Inslee

March 29, 2024

To the Honorable Speaker and Members, The House of Representatives of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Sections 214(6), 602 and 703, Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2134 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to transportation funding and appropriations."

Section 214(6), pages 59-60, Washington State Department of Transportation, Temporary Access Permits

This section directs the Department of Transportation to certify that certain segments of roadway are no longer needed for the state highway system and to convey those segments to the county. The section further requires the Department of Transportation to grant temporary access permits for properties abutting one of the segments to be conveyed, that may be terminated only if additional connections are made in the future. The granting of temporary access rights to the state highway would improperly delegate to the county and the parcel owners the important responsibility of ensuring the safety and operation of a state limited access facility, contrary to the Department's existing statutory authority under Chapter 47.52 RCW. This raises significant safety concerns of increasing access to SR 532 at this location. For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 214(6). However, I am directing the Department to determine, consistent with its existing statutory authority, whether any of the segments of roadway listed in the proviso are no longer needed for highway purposes, and if so, whether they may be appropriately conveyed to the county.

Section 602, page 161, Department of Licensing, Special License Plate Moratorium

Section 602 is effective contingent upon the passage of Substitute House Bill 2489, which did not pass the Legislature. Because the bill did not pass, I have vetoed Section 602.

Section 703, page 173, Department of Licensing, Special License Plate Moratorium

Section 703 provides that Section 602 is effective contingent upon the passage of Substitute House Bill 2489, which did not pass the Legislature. Because I have vetoed section 602, Section 703 is not necessary. For this reason, I have vetoed Section 703.

For these reasons I have vetoed Sections 214(6), 602 and 703 of Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2134.

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With the exception of Sections 214(6), 602 and 703, Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2134 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jay Inslee Governor