

VETO MESSAGE ON HB 1019

May 9, 1997

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 section 3, House Bill No. 1019 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to appropriations for projects recommended by the public works board;"

House Bill No. 1019 provides a list of 34 public works projects for funding from the Public Works Assistance Account. It also provides a supplemental appropriation to cover 19 of the projects, listed in section 2 of the bill.

Section 3 of the bill would require the Public Works Board to ensure that at the beginning of each fiscal quarter there is a sufficient cash balance in the public works assistance account to cover the disbursements anticipated during the quarter. I completely agree with the need to maintain sufficient cash reserves. However, the language in the bill would require maintenance of approximately \$35,000,000 in reserves. I believe that amount is far too large. In my proposed capital budget, I recommended a reserve of \$15,000,000. The \$20,000,000 difference can be used to complete projects that are badly needed now.

For these reasons, I have vetoed section 3 of House Bill No. 1019.

With the exception of section 3, I am approving House Bill No. 1019.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Locke
Governor