

VETO MESSAGE ON HB 1278

April 21, 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 2, House Bill No. 1278 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to requiring beer manufacturers to use the term lager on the outside label of contents of packages containing malt liquor;"

This legislation allows beer manufacturers or distributors to use the word "lager" as a stand-alone labeling term on the labels of malt beverages, to identify the contents.

Section 2 of this legislation defines the word "lager" the same as the definition provided in the Liquor Code for "malt beverage" and "malt liquor." However, these terms do not have the same meaning. Even if this definition were correct, it is unnecessary to accomplish the purpose of the bill.

For these reasons, I have vetoed section 2 of House Bill No. 1278.

With the exception of section 2, House Bill No. 1278 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Locke
Governor