

VETO MESSAGE ON EHB 3261

March 29, 2006

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning, without my approval as to Sections 1 and 3,
Engrossed House Bill No. 3261 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to strengthening the review process
by the indeterminate sentence review board by adding
two members to the board and allowing victims to
provide input at board hearings involving offenders
sentenced under RCW 9.94A.712."

The Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board (ISRB) is
experiencing an increased caseload with the 2001 addition of
indeterminate sentencing for sex offenders. New board members
will be needed in the future. However, they are not critically
needed at this time. In order for the ISRB to run efficiently
with its current and projected caseloads, its current staffing
and technology limits need to be improved before it adds new
board members.

An emergency clause is also unnecessary. Because it is already
the practice of the ISRB to provide victims the ability to
participate in its hearing process, victims will not be harmed
by any delay in enactment. The ISRB is fully supportive of the
amendment to Chapter 9.95.420 RCW, and has agreed to comply
with the requirements of the amendment in the interim before
this bill takes effect.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Sections 1 and 3 of Engrossed
House Bill No. 3261.

With the exception of Sections 1 and 3, Engrossed House Bill
No. 3261 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor