

SB 6617.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS PASSED LEGISLATURE)

Establishes the legislative public records act.

Establishes records disclosure obligations that preserve the independent deliberation of the people's representatives while providing access to legislative public records.

Establishes continued public access to specified records of the legislature as originally codified in the public records act in 1995, as well as additional records provided in this act.

VETO MESSAGE ON ESB 6617

March 1, 2018

To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 6617 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to records disclosure obligations
of the legislative branch."

At the request of a number of lawmakers, I am vetoing Engrossed Senate Bill 6617 in its entirety so that the Legislature can engage with the public and stakeholders in a transparent process to discuss and consider legislative public records issues.

While a wide majority of lawmakers voted for Engrossed Senate Bill 6617 as a genuine effort to create clarity and increase transparency, the process was seriously flawed. I applaud Washingtonians for making their voices heard as well as legislators' thoughtful reconsideration.

For these reasons I have vetoed Engrossed Senate Bill No. 6617 in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Inslee
Governor