

## **VETO MESSAGES**

### **STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE VETO OF ITEMS IN AMENDED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 87**

**MARCH 31, 2003**

Pursuant to Article II, Section 16 of the Ohio Constitution, which states that the Governor may disapprove any items in a bill making an appropriation of money, I hereby disapprove the following items contained in Amended Sub. House Bill 87 and set forth below the reasons for so doing. The text I am disapproving is identified in this message by reference to the corresponding page and boxed text of the bill.

#### **ITEM NUMBER 1**

On page 26, delete the boxed text.

#### **Expansion of ECheck Exemptions**

This item expands the new car exemption from two years to five years, and also exempts any transfers of ownership that occur during those first five years from the Echeck testing requirements.- While I share the concerns of legislators and many Ohioans about the Echeck program, particularly testing for newer cars, this would result in a reduction of vehicles being tested by the Echeck testing contractor, thereby causing a potential breach of the existing contract and an anticipated loss to the state. The state anticipates that the cost to make up for this financial loss is \$29 million, an unfunded liability since the Ohio General Assembly deleted any source of funding from this bill. Furthermore, under federal law, Ohio would lose some air pollution credits if we take over one million vehicles out of the Echeck program. We would then be forced impose new pollution controls to make up for that loss in emission credits. If Ohio fails to comply with federal clean air laws, we face the loss of federal highway dollars and other sanctions.

#### **ITEM NUMBER 2**

On page 191, delete the boxed text.

### **State Forest Fund**

This item diverts necessary funds from the State Forest Fund which would result in a cash flow and revenue problem that negatively impacts the Division of Forestry's ability to salvage downed timber and other operations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto subscribed my name and  
caused the Great Seal of the State of  
Ohio to be affixed at Columbus this  
31st day of March, Two Thousand  
Three.

---

Bob Taft, Governor

This will acknowledge the receipt of a copy of this Veto Message of Amended Substitute House Bill 87 that was disapproved in part by Governor Bob Taft on March 31st, 2003.

---

Name and Title of Officer

---

Date and Time of Receipt