



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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**ROD BLAGOJEVICH**  
GOVERNOR

July 9, 2008

To the Honorable Member of the  
Illinois Senate  
95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

It is with great reluctance that I am returning Senate Bill 1115 with line item vetoes totaling \$38,010,900, pursuant to my authority under Article IV, Section 9(d) of the Illinois Constitution. While these line-item vetoes will impact programs that I support, I cannot in good conscience sign an appropriations bill that is not supported by current funding sources, and may ultimately lead our State into economic disarray.

It is the constitutional duty of the Illinois General Assembly to pass a balanced budget each fiscal year. Article VIII, Section 2(b) of the Illinois Constitution is clear in its requirement that the appropriations made by the General Assembly for the ensuing fiscal year shall not exceed funds estimated to be available during that year. Unfortunately, this year, the General Assembly failed to adhere to its constitutional obligation and passed a budget which is grossly out of balance. Specifically, the Illinois House of Representatives failed to pass the funding measures necessary to support the appropriations it made, and placed its responsibility of balancing the budget on the executive. These line-item vetoes are a direct result of the Illinois House of Representatives' failure to perform its constitutional duties. Although the House, by and through its leadership, is forcing these actions today, I am still hopeful that funding solutions can be passed to restore these worthy programs.

**Item Vetoes**

I hereby veto the appropriations items listed below:

Article	Section	Page	Line(s)	Amount Enacted
10	175	77	6 - 11	350,000
10	220	79	18 - 22 and	342,800
10	220	80	1 - 3	
10	225	80	4 - 10	37,318,100

In addition to these specific item vetoes, I hereby approve all other appropriation items in Senate Bill 1115.

Sincerely,



ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH  
Governor