



Mureen E. Arteach
4-04-14 2:15p.m.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

April 4, 2014

The Honorable Brad Little
President of the Senate
Idaho Legislature

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Dear Mr. President,

I hereby advise you that I have utilized the line-item veto authority granted to the Governor as provided by Article 4, Section 11 of the Idaho Constitution, to withhold my approval, disapprove and veto the item of appropriation in Section 1, line 15 of:

S1430

which provides the additional appropriations for the compensation of constitutional officers in fiscal year 2015. I have transmitted the bill, so marked, to the Secretary of State, within the time limited by law, the same having arrived in the Office of the Governor at the hour of 4:20 p.m. on March 24, 2014.

While I appreciate the Legislature's intentions in approving a pay increase for the Governor, it is not my desire to accept this increase in the context of having not recommended a similar change in compensation for our valued state employees.

In addition, I hereby advise you that I have transmitted today to the Secretary of State the following Senate Bill, which was allowed to become law without my signature:

S1395a

as prescribed by the Constitution.

This legislation establishes in statute the formula for determining the compensation for each of Idaho's constitutional officers over the next four years. With spending authority thus set but the appropriation for the Governor's additional compensation line-item vetoed in S1430, I intend to donate \$1,800 from the Governor's compensation in fiscal 2015 to Bishop Kelly High School. I also encourage my fellow constitutional officers – who likewise did not seek pay increases – to make similar donations from the authorized and appropriated funds allocated for their compensation to the educational institutions of their choice.

Further, I strongly encourage the Legislature in the years to come to reconsider its decision to connect pay for the Attorney General to that of the judiciary. I have serious concerns about a policy linking an Executive Branch salary to a Judicial Branch standard.

As Always – Idaho "Esto Perpetua"

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho