

JAY INSLEE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 902-4111 • www.governor.wa.gov

May 3, 2021

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 2, Senate Bill No. 5159 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to payments in lieu of real property taxes by the department of fish and wildlife.”

This bill improves the method the state uses to pay counties for payments in lieu of taxes for lands owned by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Counties distribute these payments to local taxing districts in the same manner they distribute property taxes supporting things like schools, emergency services, and noxious weed control. Section 2 sets an emergency effective date for the bill of July 1, 2021. The emergency effective date is unnecessary as payments to counties are due in April each year, not in July. The next payment to counties will be made in April 2022 and an emergency effective date is not needed to issue those payments. For this reason, I am vetoing section 2 of SB 5159.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 2 of Senate Bill No. 5159.

With the exception of Section 2, Senate Bill No. 5159 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Inslee
Governor