



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR BOB FERGUSON

March 30, 2026

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

Esteemed Colleagues:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 3, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 6246 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to emissions from emissions-intensive, trade-exposed facilities under the climate commitment act."

Section 3 of the bill requires Ecology to contract for an independent study of emissions and job leakage from emissions-intensive, trade-exposed facilities. The study is estimated to cost the agency approximately \$1.5 million beginning in 2028. While funding for most requirements of the bill was provided, the legislature did not fund the study in Section 3.

When directing agencies to accomplish work associated with bills, the Legislature must include adequate funding to do so. The Department of Ecology, like other state agencies, is operating with limited resources due to budget reductions taken in both the biennial and the supplemental budgets. Ecology's general-fund state budget has been reduced by approximately 17 percent. They cannot absorb this unfunded work within their budget.

For these reasons I am vetoing Section 3 of Engrossed Senate Bill No. 6246.

With the exception of Section 3, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 6246 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Ferguson
Governor