

JAY INSLEE
Governor



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April 1, 2016

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 3, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6248 entitled:

“AN ACT Relating to risk mitigation plans to promote the transition of eligible coal units.”

Section 3 of the bill prohibits the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) from authorizing the use of retirement account funds if the electrical company proposes a closure or retirement date before December 31, 2022, subject to certain exceptions. This section inappropriately changes the long-standing definition of how the commission determines whether utility investment and expenses are prudent. It unnecessarily interferes with the market and with UTC’s role in determining how best to protect the ratepayers of Washington-owned utilities.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 3 of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6248.

With the exception of Section 3, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6248 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Jay Inslee
Governor