



Roy Cooper, Governor  
*State of North Carolina*

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

***Senate Bill 257, "AN ACT TO MAKE BASE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, INSTITUTIONS, AND AGENCIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."***

This budget neglects our schools and our economy at a time when North Carolina should be making public education stronger, not giving special breaks to those at the top.

It prioritizes tax breaks for the wealthy and corporations and shortchanges our workforce and schools at a pivotal time of growth.

The budget also lacks structural integrity by failing to account for population growth, inflation and looming federal reductions, by using one-time revenue for recurring expenses, and by adopting a tax plan that will cause the state to fail to fund promised teacher salary increases in future years, along with funding for early childhood education, community colleges and universities.

Additionally, the Act contains provisions that infringe upon the Governor's ability to faithfully execute the laws, including the administration of this Act, as required by the Constitution, and violating the separation of powers.

These shortcomings can be fixed, and I encourage the General Assembly to do so by capping tax cuts so they benefit the middle class, investing more in public education, and fixing the unconstitutional flaws in this bill. But in its current form the Act shortchanges North Carolina.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Cooper", written over a horizontal line.

Roy Cooper  
Governor

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Received:  
June 27, 2017  
@ 10:23 a.m.  
Sarah Lang



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*State of North Carolina*

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017, at 10:23 am for reconsideration by that body.

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