



Roy Cooper, Governor
State of North Carolina

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

House Bill 686, "AN ACT TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CELEBRATE THE FOURTH OF JULY, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES."

Tying the hands of public health officials in times of pandemic is dangerous, especially when case counts and hospitalizations are rising. State and local officials must be able to take swift action during the COVID-19 emergency to prevent a surge of patients from overwhelming hospitals and endangering the lives of North Carolinians. The bill could restrict leaders who need to respond quickly to outbreaks and protect public health and safety.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Cooper".

Roy Cooper
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina House of Representatives on this the 2nd day of July 2020, at 1:40 pm for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED

JUL 02 2020

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

1:40 PM

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "James McBride".

5:00 P.M. on July 1st and 5:00 P.M. on July 10th, unless the act or omission amounts to gross negligence, willful or wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing. This section does not apply to any of the following:

- (1) Claims before the Industrial Commission seeking benefits payable under the Workers' Compensation Act, Article 1 of Chapter 97 of the General Statutes.
- (2) Claims arising later than one year after the expiration or rescission of Executive Order No. 116 issued March 10, 2020.

SECTION 5. This act is effective when it becomes law, and applies to any parades or firework displays scheduled to occur between 5:00 P.M. on July 1st and on 5:00 P.M. July 10th. Except as otherwise provided, this act expires when any applicable declaration of emergency prohibitions and restrictions on parades and firework displays scheduled to occur between 5:00 P.M. on July 1st and 5:00 P.M. on July 10th, expire or are terminated.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 24th day of June, 2020.

Philip E. Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives

VETO
Roy Cooper

Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved _____ .m. this _____ day of _____, 2020

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR
JUN 22 2020
11:40 PM
James White