

June 17, 2010

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Herewith I return to you Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2007 entitled:

AN ACT

To appropriate money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the Department of Economic Development, Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and the several divisions and programs thereof to be expended only as provided in Article IV, Section 28 of the Constitution of Missouri, and to transfer money among certain funds for the period beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011.

Section 7.840

I hereby veto \$295,287 Workers' Compensation Fund for three administrative law judges. The Division of Workers' Compensation is statutorily authorized a maximum of forty administrative law judges. Pursuant to Section 287.610.1, RSMo, the actual number of administrative law judges is determined through the appropriations process and "shall be based upon necessity..." Between 2005 and 2009, the division realized a 25% reduction in first reports of injury and a 28% decrease in the number of claims filed. As a result, the fiscal year 2010 budget eliminated five administrative law judge positions. My budget recommendations for fiscal year 2011 did not provide for restoring any of the eliminated positions and, given the reduction in claims, a veto will not impact the department's ability to adjudicate workers' compensation cases.

Personal Services and/or Expense and Equipment by \$295,287 from \$9,321,650 to \$9,026,363 Workers' Compensation Fund.

From \$9,371,650 to \$9,076,363 Workers' Compensation Fund.

From \$9,376,650 to \$9,081,363 in total for the section.

On June 17, 2010 I approved said Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2007 except for those items specifically vetoed and not approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor