STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

June 30, 2014

Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol
Lansing MI 48909-7536

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today I have signed Enrolled House Bill 5313, which makes appropriations for various departments and agencies, the judicial branch and the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. The appropriations in Enrolled House Bill 5313 total $37.4 billion and provide funding for critical services throughout the state.

I have, however, disapproved two items pursuant to Section 19 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963. The specific vetoes are detailed in the attached copy of the bill that has been filed with the Secretary of State.

I have disapproved the appropriations in section 311 within the Department of Transportation (Article XVII) because a pedestrian crossing study is an unnecessary expenditure and a transportation revenue package is still pending.

I have once again disapproved the appropriation within the Department of Transportation in Article XVII for a high-speed rail crossing pilot program, and related boilerplate, section 1004, because current traffic control measures are consistent with federal standards.

I have considered the enforceability of boilerplate provisions as I provide direction to departments in implementing appropriations contained in Enrolled House Bill 5313. Among the various provisions that are considered unenforceable, I note the following: sections 453(2) and 803 (Article I); section 590 (Article X); and section 382 (Article XVII). Section 897(2) (Article VIII) is considered enforceable provided Senate Bill 906 is enacted into law.

Enrolled House Bill 5313 also contains numerous boilerplate sections that include statements of legislative intent. We will take these legislative preferences into consideration as departments and agencies implement the appropriations. However, these legislative intent statements do not impose conditions on appropriations and are non-binding upon departments and agencies implementing the appropriations.

I am pleased to sign this omnibus appropriations bill that demonstrates continuing commitment from the Legislature to deliver a timely budget. With the same spirit of cooperation, we must push forward to finalize a revenue package to support our transportation infrastructure – an issue affecting every resident and visitor in our state. I strongly encourage continued discussions with the Legislature in formulating a solution to this critical issue.

Respectfully,

Rick Snyder
Governor

Attachment
cc: Michigan State Senate
The Honorable Ruth Johnson, Secretary of State