VETO MESSAGE ON EHB 1167

May 7, 2009

To the Honorable Speaker and Members, The House of Representatives of the State of Washington Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have approved, except for Sections 1 and 2, Engrossed House Bill 1167 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to the linked deposit program."

Sections 1 and 2 would have created a new obligation to produce a report by the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises. While I support the aim of identifying ways the linked deposit program can be improved and how small businesses can access capital more readily, this bill places a large, unfunded financial burden on a small agency during very tough budget times. For this reason, I have vetoed Sections 1 and 2 of Engrossed House Bill 1167.

With the exception of Sections 1 and 2, Engrossed House Bill 1167 is approved.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Gregoire Governor