

The following message from the Governor was received and read:

STATE FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT; DURATION OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDERS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND DIRECTIVES

May 4, 2020

Today I am returning Enrolled Senate Bill 858 to you without my approval, for several reasons.

First, the provisions of the bill run contrary to the recommendations of public health experts. I remind you that section 51 of article 4 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 declares that the public health and general welfare of the People of the State of Michigan are matters of primary public concern.

Second, proposed subsections (5) to (7) are inconsistent with subsection 1 of section 3 of the Emergency Management, 1976 PA 390, as amended, MCL 30.403(1), which vests responsibility in the governor for coping with dangers to this state or to the People of the State of Michigan presented by a disaster or emergency. I will not sign any bills that constrain my ability to protect the people of Michigan from a deadly pandemic in a timely manner.

Third, the bill does not comply with constitutional requirements, and even if it were constitutional, would be ineffective as it was not given immediate effect.

I will continue to execute the laws consistent with the Michigan Constitution of 1963, and in accord with the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the People of the State of Michigan to whom I express my gratitude for taking the difficult steps necessary to mitigate the impact of COVID-19.

In light of these considerations, I am vetoing Enrolled Senate Bill 858.

Respectfully,  
Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor

This bill was returned from the Governor on May 4, 2020, at 9:22 a.m.