

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

I wish to express my appreciation to the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman and members of the Senate Finance Committee, the Chairman and members of the House Appropriations Committee and all members of the Legislature for their dedication, cooperation and many hours of hard work in the preparation and passage of this general appropriations act for the biennium beginning September 1, 1973.

Through the passage of House Bill 139 by the Sixty-third Legislature, my commitment of no new state taxes and a two-year budget has been realized. This bill contains a biennial appropriation from all sources of over \$9.7 billion, a \$1.5 billion increase over the current biennial spending level. Over \$300 million in federal revenue sharing funds are distributed to a number of agencies and institutions. Appropriations from the General Revenue fund total over \$2.0 billion for the ensuing biennium.

Through the cooperation and assistance of the Legislative Budget Board and state agencies and institutions, I will begin immediately initiating zero-base budgeting into the State budget process. This new concept will require state agencies and institutions to present their budget requests in such a manner that identifies a minimum level of funding for each activity to achieve minimum services, plus increments above this base for additional services. In addition, funding of activities will be ranked according to priorities. Zero-base budgeting will provide better budget information for the Governor and Legislature to make decisions in allocating scarce state resources to achieve maximum benefits from state services.

House Bill 139 is a plan of action that places top priority on human needs, expands and improves present state services, and initiates new concepts. Substantial increases are provided for programs in mental health and mental retardation, education, welfare, environment, health, and transportation. Some of the new programs funded include adult education, bilingual education, kidney health care, and regional education for the deaf.

There are, however, several items contained in House Bill 139 that are unnecessary or can be postponed without jeopardizing state services. Therefore, by authority granted me by Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I hereby veto the following items from House Bill 139, Sixty-third Legislature, Regular Session:

SUMMARY OF ITEMS VETOED

Article II	1974	1975
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM		
SAN ANTONIO STATE HOSPITAL		
Item 6—Renovate Ward Building at Chest Hospital . . .	\$ 198,000	\$

63rd LEGISLATURE—REGULAR SESSION

Article III	1974	1973
ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION		
Item 13—There is hereby appropriated for brucellosis eradication, in addition to appropriations made above, contingent on the passage of House Bill No. 785 or Senate Bill No. 681, Acts of the Sixty-third Legislature, Regular Session, for salaries, wages, travel, other operating expenses, and capital outlay	\$ 495,019	\$ 505,219
TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES		
Item 3—Humanities Program Officer	12,000	12,500
Item 10—Special Projects	25,000	25,000
EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND JUDICIAL RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATION		
Item 9—For all necessary expenses, including per diem and travel, salaries, professional fees, contractual services, rent, consumable supplies and materials, current and recurring operating expenses, and capital outlay required for implementation and administration of the group insurance program provided in the "Texas Employees Uniform Group Insurance Benefits Act" contingent upon passage of Senate Bill No. 637 or House Bill No. 1290, Sixty-third Texas Legislature, estimated	250,000	30,000
PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT		
Item 3—Director, Special Projects	21,500	22,000
TOTAL	<u>\$1,001,519</u>	<u>\$594,719</u>

OBJECTIONS TO ITEMS AND REASONS FOR VETO

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION
CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

SAN ANTONIO STATE HOSPITAL

Item 6

Funds were provided in Senate Bill 1, Sixty-second Legislature, Third Called Session, for the development of mental retardation services at the San Antonio Chest Hospital. The appropriation of \$250,000 contained in Senate Bill 1 is sufficient to renovate the necessary ward buildings for the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to provide these services. Therefore, the additional appropriation of \$198,000 is unnecessary. For this reason, I am vetoing this item.

ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Item 13

House Bill 139 provides funds for the Animal Health Commission to maintain a large staff of Animal Health Inspectors to control or eradicate animal disease in Texas. The Commission has the flexibility to utilize these inspectors in any program depending upon animal health protection needs. In addition, the Commission has available a biennial contingency appropriation of \$1,003,224 for a Scabies Eradication Program NTE \$294,340 annually and for emergency needs. The Commission projects the completion of the Scabies Eradication Program by the end of the 1974 fiscal year. Termination of this program would release additional funds for any emergency needs, including Brucellosis. It is my opinion sufficient resources are available to the Commission to implement the provisions of Senate Bill 681, Acts of the Sixty-third

PROCLAMATION

Legislature, without the necessity of a special appropriation of \$1,000,238. For these reasons, I am vetoing this item.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Item 3

This new position was not recommended by me or the Legislative Budget Board and was not included in the Senate version of the appropriations bill. The Agency currently has, and is authorized in House Bill 139, two management positions—Executive Director and Assistant Director for Project Activities and Field Operations. It is my opinion that these two positions are adequate to administer the programs and appropriations authorized by this Agency. Therefore, I am vetoing this item.

Item 10

This item was not recommended by me or the Legislative Budget Board and was not included in the Senate version of the appropriations bill. It is unclear at this time exactly how these funds would be expended, although tentative plans suggest economic research in the area of arts and humanities and funding of experimental programs. It is extremely doubtful whether this appropriation would materially enhance the present program of the Commission. Sufficient funds are appropriated to the Agency for the 1974-75 biennium to continue the present program and deletion of this item will not detract from that effort. For these reasons, I am vetoing this item.

EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND JUDICIAL RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATION

Item 9

This appropriation was made contingent upon the passage of Senate Bill No. 637 or House Bill 1290, neither of which received legislative approval. Therefore, I am vetoing this item because it is unnecessary.

PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Item 3

This new exempt position was not requested by the Department and was not recommended by me, or the Legislative Budget Board, and was not included in the Senate version of the appropriations bill. The duties and responsibilities to be performed by this position are uncertain at this time and no compelling need has been demonstrated that would require this additional position. The present management structure of the Department has proven adequate in the efficient and effective operation of the Department and can continue to function in such a manner during the 1974-75 biennium. For these reasons I am vetoing this item.

House Bill 139 was received in the Governor's Office less than ten (10) days prior to the adjournment of the Regular Session of the Sixty-third Legislature, and in accordance with Section 14, Article IV of the Constitution of Texas, the Bill, together with this Proclamation, is filed with the Secretary of State.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the seal of State to be affixed hereto at Austin this 16th day of June, 1973.

DOLPH BRISCOE
Governor of Texas

By the Governor:

MARK W. WHITE, JR.
Secretary of State