

Office of the Vermont Secretary of State
Vermont State Archives

1991: Proposal 6

Subject: Governor's veto power

PROPOSAL 6

Sec. 1. PURPOSE

This proposal would amend the Vermont Constitution to provide the Governor with authority to veto distinct appropriation items.

Sec. 2. Section 11 of Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

[§11. GOVERNOR TO APPROVE BILLS; VETO AND PROCEEDINGS THEREON; NONACTION]

Every bill which shall have passed the Senate and House of Representatives shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the Governor; if **[he]** the Governor approve, **[he]** the Governor shall sign it; if not, **[he]** the Governor shall return it, with **[his]** the objections in writing, to the House in which it shall have originated; which shall proceed to reconsider it. If, upon such reconsideration, two-thirds of the members present of that House shall pass the bill, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and, if approved by two-thirds of the members of that House, it shall become law.

But, in all such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for or against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House, respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor, as aforesaid, within five days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to **[him]** the Governor, the same shall become a law in like manner as if **[he]** the Governor had signed it; unless the two Houses by their adjournment, within three days

after the presentation of such bill shall prevent its return; in which case it shall not become a law.

The Governor shall have power to disapprove of any item or items of any bill making appropriations of money embracing distinct items while at the same time approving the remainder of the bill, and the part or parts of the bill so approved shall become effective and the item or items of appropriations so disapproved shall not take effect unless the same are separately reconsidered and repassed in the manner prescribed for the passage of bills over the Governor's veto. In all cases in which the Governor shall exercise the right of disapproval under this paragraph, the Governor shall return it, with the objections in writing, to the House in which it shall have originated.