

State of Vermont OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 4, 2024

The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask Clerk of the Vermont House of Representatives 115 State Street Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Ms. Wrask:

Pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution, I'm returning H.645, *An act relating to the expansion of approaches to restorative justice*, without my signature because of my objections described herein.

While I understand the desire to help those, particularly youth, who need second, third and even fourth chances to get their lives on track, H.645 is not workable because it is not funded.

The bottom line is this bill expands the responsibilities of the Office of the Attorney General, which will require additional resources, and yet the new work is not funded.

There is no guarantee we will have the taxpayer money needed to fund it next year. For this reason, I'm returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely

Philip B. Scott Governor

PBS/kp