

April 18, 2006

## TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 152. Under current law, counties retain 10 percent of fines and forfeitures for administrative expenses. This bill would increase to 20 or 30 percent the share retained by counties for collections of unpaid fines and forfeitures within 120 days and over 120 days, respectively. This change, while intended as an incentive to increase collections of unpaid fines and forfeitures, would appear to do the opposite. By waiting 120 days, counties could increase administration fees by 200 percent.

Fines and forfeitures are deposited in the Common School Fund, interest on which is used to support public school libraries. The Common School Fund is the sole source of state funding for Wisconsin's school libraries. This significant increase in county administration fees will come at the expense of the Common School Fund. I cannot support the reduction of this program, which is critical to Wisconsin school children, with no guarantee that the funds retained by the counties would actually be used to increase collections efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM DOYLE Governor