

1 exercise line item veto over these appropriations
2 as enacted by the General Assembly. Without
3 this right of executive review, the electorate is
4 bereft of safeguards limiting legislative expenses.

5 Article VII dealing with the powers assigned
6 or reserved to local government demands careful review.
7 While I strongly endorse the principles of Home Rule,
8 I believe any mandatory or implied shift of powers to
9 the County governments should be considered with care.
10 I have grave reservations over any partial or
11 ambiguous grant of authority that is not exactly balanced
12 by a direct line of accountable responsibility to the
13 electorate.

14 Section 7.08 and 7.09 are sought to reform
15 existing legislative practices that have been subject
16 on isolated occasions to deliberate political manipulation
17 and abuse. However, I do not believe that the
18 classification system is the absolute or
19 ultimate solution to this problem. Other alternatives
20 should be explored to protect the counties without
21 freezing them into rigid, restrictive categories.