

**THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL  
OF THE  
SENATE  
OF THE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

---

**FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS**

**Third Veto Session of the Legislature  
Under the Adoption of the  
Constitution of 1974**

Senate Chamber  
State Capitol  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

The Senate was called to order at 12:18 o'clock P.M. by Hon. Patrick Page Cortez, President of the Senate.

**Morning Hour**

**CONVENING ROLL CALL**

The President of the Senate announced there were 38 Senators present and a quorum.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called with the following result:

**YEAS**

|               |            |         |
|---------------|------------|---------|
| Mr. President | Foil       | Mizell  |
| Abraham       | Harris     | Morris  |
| Allain        | Henry      | Peacock |
| Barrow        | Hensgens   | Pope    |
| Bernard       | Hewitt     | Price   |
| Boudreaux     | Jackson    | Reese   |
| Bouie         | Kleinpeter | Smith   |
| Carter        | Lambert    | Stine   |
| Cathey        | Luneau     | Talbot  |
| Cloud         | McMath     | Tarver  |
| Duplessis     | Milligan   | White   |
| Fesi          | Mills, F.  | Womack  |
| Fields        | Mills, R.  |         |

Total - 38

**NAYS**

Total - 0

**ABSENT**

Connick  
Total - 1

**Prayer**

The prayer was offered by Pastor David Hairford, following which the Senate joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**Messages from the Governor**

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 15, 2023

Honorable Page Cortez  
Louisiana Senate President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183

Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 196 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 196 of the 2023 Regular Session. This piece of legislation is clearly a pretense designed to gain a litigation advantage under the guise of promoting transparency in litigation and protecting national security.

When there is a legitimate dispute between Louisiana citizens or small businesses and their insurers, commercial legal financing levels the playing field. Legal financing allows local companies and individuals with far fewer resources to pursue meritorious claims.

This bill would give large corporations and insurance companies a tactical advantage by allowing them to exploit their newfound knowledge of an individual or small business's litigation budget. Further, it would also force Louisiana citizens trying to recover from natural disasters to potentially reveal their assessment of the litigation, and other information provided to underwrite the legal merits of their claim.

Proponents of Senate Bill 196 argued the legislation is necessary for litigation transparency, but the bill only requires plaintiffs to unilaterally disclose their commercial legal financing arrangements. If true transparency is what was intended, the legislation would have required all parties to disclose their legal financing arrangements. The proposed structure has one desired outcome - to deter commercial legal finance companies from doing business in Louisiana. The only beneficiaries of this would be wrongdoers who can simply outlast victims because they have greater financial resources.

The Louisiana Legislature should make every effort to level the playing field for all of those who are forced to litigate disputes. Instead, this bill operates to give one side in litigation an advantage, to the detriment of those who are seeking to recover from injury, economic damage, or property loss. As such, it will not become law.

Please find enclosed the vetoed Senate Bill 196.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 15, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Line Item Vetoes in House Bill 560 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder and President Cortez:

Please allow this letter to inform you that I have signed House Bill 560 of the 2023 Regular Session. However, I have exercised my line item veto authority to veto 19 items.

I have exercised my line item veto authority as follows:

Veto No. 1: Delete Lines 43-44 on Page 13 of 90 and Lines 1-2 on Page 14 of 90

Veto No. 2: Delete Lines 13-14 on Page 34 of 90

- Veto No. 3: Delete Lines 15-17 on Page 34 of 90
- Veto No. 4: Delete Lines 21-23 on Page 34 of 90
- Veto No. 5: Delete Lines 12-14 on Page 35 of 90
- Veto No. 6: Delete Lines 44-46 on Page 43 of 90
- Veto No. 7: Delete Lines 7-8 on Page 44 of 90
- Veto No. 8: Delete Lines 21-22 on Page 46 of 90
- Veto No. 9: Delete Lines 25-27 on Page 51 of 90
- Veto No. 10: Delete Lines 28-30 on Page 51 of 90
- Veto No. 11: Delete Lines 31-33 on Page 51 of 90
- Veto No. 12: Delete Lines 14-16 on Page 54 of 90
- Veto No. 13: Delete Lines 4-6 on Page 55 of 90
- Veto No. 14: Delete Lines 7-9 on Page 55 of 90
- Veto No. 15: Delete Lines 7-9 on Page 65 of 90
- Veto No. 16: Delete Lines 23-25 on Page 70 of 90
- Veto No. 17: Delete Lines 17-18 on Page 71 of 90
- Veto No. 18: Delete Lines 35-36 on Page 74 of 90
- Veto No. 19: Delete Lines 21-27 on Page 82 of 90

Enclosed is a copy of the signed version of House Bill 560. I have sent the original to the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Page Cortez  
Louisiana Senate President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 1 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Senate Bill 1 by Chairman Allain presents another path toward the elimination of Louisiana's franchise tax on corporations and other businesses taxed as corporations.

There is little doubt among tax experts that this tax is antiquated and should be structurally reformed or repealed. In 2021, Chairman Allain led an effort to reform Louisiana's tax code resulting in true tax reform that reduced corporate and individual income tax rates, uncoupled Louisiana's income tax from federal income tax, exempted corporations with less than \$300,000 of taxable capital from the franchise tax, and enacted a tax reduction trigger for franchise tax and individual income tax.

The extent of fiscal impacts from these changes will not be known, however, until December 2023 or early 2024, following the new automatic filing extension of November 15, 2023, for 2022

income taxes. With many moving and intertwined pieces, it is unwise to create a second franchise tax reduction trigger at this time. The phase out and ultimate elimination of the franchise tax will require future policymakers to reconcile the inherent reduction to the corporate income tax due to the portability of these hundreds of millions of available tax credits. Those policymakers must also address the sunset of the 0.45% sales tax; the return of previously suspended sales tax exemptions; and existing and new dedications of certain taxes to the Transportation Trust Fund and Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund.

Over the last eight years, my Administration has worked to grow and diversify the economy while ensuring historic investments in our people, our children, our roads and bridges, our coastline, and more. There is nearly \$2 billion in protected savings accounts and financial stability across state government. This legacy allows my successor to continue our progress, with a new perspective and fresh start, and affords a unique opportunity to propel Louisiana forward.

The next fiscal session is scheduled in early 2025, and while I leave Louisiana's finances in a far more positive light than I found them, there is more work to be done and careful decisions to be made by the next administration and legislature in anticipation of Fiscal Year 2026. I applaud Chairman Allain's efforts in 2021 and this past legislative session in championing necessary reforms to our tax system, and I invite the next Administration and Legislature to continue moving forward in reforming, modernizing, and improving Louisiana's tax laws.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1 and return it to the Senate.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 205 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 205 of the 2023 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature. Although well-intentioned, the disparate treatment this legislation would create among education professionals across the state requires that this bill not become law.

Throughout my career as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, and during my two terms as governor, I have advocated for and supported our public school systems and teachers. Under the previous administration and throughout my time as governor, outside interests have worked and continue to work to erode the public's confidence in our public school system. Louisiana's public school system suffered from a lack of investment in public education under the previous administration's motto of doing more with less and, as a result, we currently have a shortage of teachers, low enrollment in the colleges of education, and are competing with surrounding states to attract and retain qualified educators.

As governor, it has been a priority of mine to work with the legislature to increase teacher pay to the southern regional average. Throughout my service as governor and with the support of the

legislature we have been able to provide our educators with incremental salary increases. Although not fully successful, teacher pay has increased more than \$5000, which is not an unsubstantial amount, over the last five years. The salary increases were possible because Louisiana now has a growing, diversified economy and practices sound budgeting policies.

Unfortunately, without additional guard rails, this legislation if signed into law would create unfunded mandates on school districts already struggling financially while at the same time exempting charter schools and special school districts from the additional compensation mandates. Even further, students in many school districts that are the most resource constrained would likely be unable to participate in and benefit from many of the extracurricular activities that should be available to all students. I appreciate Representative Bryant taking on this legislation to provide additional compensation to our public school teachers for the work and the service they provide to our state and it is my hope that the legislature continues to fight for our teachers.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 309 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 309 by Representative Garofalo. As finally passed, this bill mirrors Act No. 1 of the 2023 Regular Session authored by Representative Willard, and Act No. 45 of the 2023 Regular Session authored by Senator Hewitt. House Bill 309 is duplicative, unnecessary, and will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 399 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 399 of the 2023 Regular Session.

Current state law provides for vaccine requirements for elementary and secondary schools, colleges, universities, proprietary schools, vocational schools, and licensed day care centers that are based on expert medical advice and schedules put together by the

Louisiana Department of Health. Current law also provides for exceptions to those requirements when the student or his parent or guardian submits either a written statement from a physician stating that the procedure is contraindicated for medical reasons, or a written dissent from the student or his parent or guardian is presented.

House Bill 399 as passed the legislature is a covert attempt to undermine the faith of the public in vaccines. School vaccination requirements protect both students and school personnel in communities where potential for vaccine-preventable disease transmission is high. Perpetuating mistrust in vaccines that are safe, effective, and essential to public health is reckless and extremely dangerous. House Bill 399 will not become law.

For these reasons, I have vetoed the bill.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 415 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 415 of the Regular Session of 2023.

The changes in law effected by this bill are unnecessary, likely unconstitutional, and could have significant unforeseen consequences. This bill amends important sections of state law regarding bank deposits to prevent the use of a so-called central bank digital currency ("CBDC") by depositors in Louisiana.

There is currently no such central bank digital currency in existence in the United States, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has not publicly expressed any imminent intention to create one.

Further, as the bill's author noted in presenting the bill to the House Committee on Commerce during session, only the United States Congress has the ability and authority to regulate or prevent the establishment of a CBDC in the United States and there is federal legislation pending before the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the United States Senate, which would, if finally enacted, prevent the Federal Reserve from issuing a CBDC. A preemptive move by Louisiana to change the definitions in our law without sufficient study of an actual change in federal law or policy could lead to wide-reaching unforeseen consequences.

It would be unwise now for Louisiana to legislate against a hypothetical, particularly when the scope and ramifications of any such potential policy change by the federal government are yet unknown and, therefore, House Bill 415 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 504 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 504 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill attempted to repeal La. R.S. 42:31, which was originally enacted as Act 264 of the 2013 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature. As a member of the House of Representatives, I authored this piece of legislation, which simply requires that all state employees who receive \$100,000 or more in compensation from the State of Louisiana maintain their driver's license in Louisiana and register their vehicles in Louisiana. The citizens of Louisiana should know that those who receive lucrative state employment, who are compensated in taxpayer dollars at a rate that is more than double the median household income in this state, are held to the same rules and market conditions that our citizens are faced with every day. When I authored this legislation in 2013, I believed it to be good public policy and continue to believe so. Accordingly, House Bill 504 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 85 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 85 of the 2023 Regular Session.

House Bill 85 would have created the misdemeanor crime of approaching a law enforcement officer lawfully engaged in law enforcement duties. The penalty for violating the crime is a fine up to \$500, imprisonment up to 60 days in jail, or both.

First, House Bill 85 is unnecessary since La. R.S. 14:329, which provides for the crime of interfering with a law enforcement investigation. Enacted in August 2010, it carries a penalty of 6 months in jail, a \$500 fine, or both, when the offender intentionally interferes with a police officer investigating the scene of a crime or the scene of an accident by refusing to move or leave the immediate location of the crime or the accident when ordered to do so by the law enforcement officer when the offender has reasonable grounds to believe the officer is acting in the performance of his official duties.

Further, and perhaps unintentional, the effect of this bill were it to become law would be to chill exercise of First Amendment rights and prevent bystanders from observing and recording police action.

Each of us has a constitutional right to freely observe public servants as they function in public and within the course and scope of their official duties. Observations of law enforcement, whether by witnesses to an incident with officers, individuals interacting with officers, or members of the press, are invaluable in promoting transparency.

Therefore, House Bill 85 is not needed and it will not become law.

For these reasons, I have vetoed the bill.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 27, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 658 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised I have vetoed House Bill 658 of the 2023 Regular Session. The bill seeks to add additional layers of state bureaucracy to federal pricing transparency laws for healthcare facilities and health insurance issuers by requiring the Louisiana Department of Health and Department of Insurance to monitor and enforce compliance with existing federal law.

There is no question that pricing transparency is an important component to ensuring affordable access to healthcare for all, which is why these requirements were included in the Affordable Care Act.

While I appreciate the author's and co-authors' support for my first executive action as governor in expanding Medicaid, making affordable healthcare more accessible to Louisianan, the legislation as finally passed provides for alternate notifications, timelines, and corrective action plans required by the State that do not align with federal law. Due to the confusion and administrative burden this bill will create if enacted, in addition to increased agency costs not included in the budget for implementation, it will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 28, 2023

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
Senate President  
Louisiana Senate  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 6 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Chairman Allain has been a champion in the legislature on leading the efforts to achieve tax reform in the State of Louisiana. However, the bill was presented to the legislature as companion

legislation to serve as an offset for Senate Bill 1. With Senate Bill 1 having been vetoed for the reasons stated in the Senate Bill 1 veto message, this companion legislation has also been vetoed.

For decades, Louisiana's economic competitiveness has been hampered by a complicated tax structure. Historically, this has hindered Louisiana's growth in demonstrable ways, especially when benchmarking with other Southern states. My administration supports efforts to simplify and streamline our tax system in ways that will improve our competitiveness while providing adequate resources for Louisiana to continue to invest in important priorities such as higher education, workforce development, child and family services, public infrastructure (roads, bridges, highways, broadband, water and sewer systems), coastal protection and more, with a commitment to equitable deployment of state government resources at the fore.

Louisiana's future will not only depend on adequate investments in traditional government services, but our future will also hinge upon investments in smart and strategic economic development initiatives. Economic Development incentives are critical tools for business attraction and retention, and the Quality Jobs program - a program that incentivizes companies that pay more than double the minimum wage - has served as an impactful tool for Louisiana's economic development efforts.

While I am proud to have achieved fiscal stability and to leave Louisiana's finances in a stronger and healthier state than how I found them, there is indeed more work to be done. The next opportunity to address tax reform, including the opportunity to make strategic adjustments to Louisiana's economic development toolkit, will come in the fiscal session of 2025 if not sooner. I again commend Chairman Allain for his accomplishments and leadership in Louisiana tax system reforms, and I urge the next Administration and Legislature to continue making advancements toward a fair, stable, predictable, more competitive, and equitable tax framework.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 28, 2023

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
Senate President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 123 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 123 of the Regular Session of 2023.

The bill as passed does not accomplish its intent and presents potential integrity issues for the recall petition process despite containing worthwhile provisions and the author's efforts to achieve compromise. Senate Bill No. 123 makes several changes to the recall petition process, most at the request of the Louisiana Registrars of Voters Association to make the recall petition process operate more smoothly for registrars of voters. However, a provision in the bill included by the author would shield signatures on the recall petition from public record for 90 days from the first signature.

This provision is problematic for several reasons. First, the author's intent as stated in the Senate House and Governmental Affairs Committee was to allow signatures to be made public "halfway through" the recall petition process. In current law, voters

have up to 180 days to add their names to a recall petition before it must be submitted for certification to the registrar of voters, and the bill provides that signatures would be shielded from public record for 90 days after the first signature. While it is true that 90 is half of 180, it is not necessary that those initiating the recall petition use the full 180 days before submitting the petition for certification. For example, should the petition be submitted to the registrar after 45 days, the signatures would be shielded from public record until after the registrar completes certification, not halfway through the process.

Furthermore, the possibility that signatures on a recall petition would be shielded from public record until after certification by a registrar presents potential integrity issues. A voter would have no sure way of knowing if their name had been added fraudulently to a recall petition until after it had been certified. The bill as passed creates a confusing standard for when recall petition signatures become public record and increases the likelihood of fraud, and, therefore, Senate Bill 123 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 28, 2023

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
Senate President  
Louisiana Senate  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 159 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 159 of the 2023 Regular Session.

Senate Bill 159 is a blatant reversal of the Raise the Age legislation passed with bipartisan support in 2016. Raise the Age was implemented in stages to allow the juvenile justice system to make adjustments in preparation for changes pursuant to the law. Senate Bill 159 is also unnecessary as Louisiana Children's Code Article 306 states that the courts may, based on a balancing test, detain juveniles fully segregated by both sight and sound, away adult offenders.

This rollback is contrary to detention standards in The Federal Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act which prohibits juvenile offenders from being housed with adults even if they are being prosecuted as adults. Senate Bill 159 also runs afoul of the Prison Rape Elimination Act. Violations of federal law will result in Louisiana losing federal funding critical to operating and maintaining our juvenile justice and adult correctional systems. Housing seventeen year olds with adults is dangerous and reckless. Juveniles detained in adult jails are often preyed upon by adult inmates. They often come out as seasoned criminals after being victimized.

For these reasons, I have vetoed the bill.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 28, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 81 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 81 of the 2023 Regular Session.

At its core, this bill is yet another example of a string of discriminatory bills being pushed by extreme groups around the country under the guise of religious freedom. But even if you accept the proponents' religious freedom argument, the bill is still fraught with serious, practical implementation issues.

As finally passed, every parent whose child goes by a nickname, rather than the name on their birth certificate, would have to provide written permission to the school to allow an employee of the school to use the child's nickname rather than his given name. The bill defines "student" as a public school student under the age of 18. Even just as it pertains to being called by a nickname, does this mean the parents of a 17 year old public school student would have to provide permission to the school for employees to use the nickname, but an 18 year old student at the same public school can go by a different name not on his birth certificate without requiring parental consent?

Even further, this legislation would only apply to public and charter schools, meaning children attending private school can be called by a name or pronoun other than that on their birth certificate without a parent's written permission? Are the same religious freedom protections for public school employees this bill alleges to address not extended to employees at private schools?

While there is an attempt to provide safeguards for a child who may have a nickname or a pronoun that a school employee refuses to use for religious and moral reasons, the bill falls woefully short of actually protecting the child. As finally passed, the legislation allows the parent in these instances to request that the child be transferred to another teacher's classroom. But not only is the school not required to transfer, what happens in a small school, in a rural district, where there is no other class to be transferred to or even another school in the district for the child to be transferred to? Where does the child go to be educated?

I believe this legislation is rooted in discrimination. But even considering the argument for religious freedom, the drafting of this bill is so flawed and leaves the reader with so many questions that it will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 28, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 91 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 91 of the 2023 Regular Session.

House Bill 91 is an attempt to provide restitution in the form of child support payments for minor survivors of victims of vehicular homicide, but falls short of providing clear direction to the various courts and parties on how this would be implemented. For example, the legislation requires the criminal court to calculate restitution pursuant to the guidelines in La. R.S. 9:315. That statute, however, is the definition section of Louisiana's child support law, and provides no mechanism for the calculation, or modification thereof, for the amount of child support an obligor would be required to pay. Would a child support obligor under the criminal restitution statute be entitled to modification for material circumstances? Which court would the defendant obligor apply to? Would the criminal court retain jurisdiction over defendant obligor until the child survivor attains the age they are no longer entitled to child support?

Further, the legislation also requires a criminal court that has required a restitution order to adopt the civil judgment a surviving parent or guardian may obtain against the defendant obligor. The plain reading of the legislation leaves many questions. Is the adoption of the civil order in lieu of the ordered child support payments? Is adoption of the civil judgment in addition to the required child support payments? Does requiring the criminal court to adopt the civil judgment bestow upon the criminal court the power to hold the defendant obligor in criminal contempt if he does not pay his civil judgment?

Although the legislation appears on its face to be well-intentioned, there are too many unknowns and questions remaining for it to become law, and therefore, it has been vetoed.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 188 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 188 of the 2023 Regular Session.

House Bill 188 allows the district attorney to compel the court to determine whether a defendant is a "dangerous offender" when filing a bill of information. Such piece of legislation is unnecessary as provisions governing the calculation of sentences and parole eligibility based on one's prior history of felony convictions exists in current law.

Therefore, House Bill 188 is not needed and it should not become law.

For this reason, I have vetoed the bill.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill No. 125 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill No. 125 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill would prohibit the acquisition, purchase, or ownership of agricultural land by a "foreign adversary or prohibited foreign actor." The bill is similar to House Bill No. 537, which I signed, rendering House Bill No. 125 unnecessary. House Bill No. 537 prohibits the purchasing or acquisition of immovable property by foreign adversaries, which would include agricultural land.

Despite their similarities, this bill differs from House Bill No. 537 in several problematic ways. First, House Bill No. 537 defines "foreign adversary" by referencing 15 CFR 7.4, the federal definition of foreign adversary that is subject to change. While House Bill No. 125 also references 15 CFR 7.4, it specifically names each of the governments currently included in 15 CFR 7.4. Should the federal government remove from the list of foreign adversaries any government currently included, Louisiana would continue to prohibit that government or people from that country from acquiring or owning agricultural land were this bill to be enacted.

Furthermore, House Bill No. 537 defines "person connected with a foreign adversary" as a juridical person. It does not apply to ownership of property by natural persons. Further, juridical persons categorized as persons connected with a foreign adversary are not prohibited outright from ownership of property as long as any ownership interest by a foreign adversary of the juridical entity is limited to less than fifty percent. House Bill No. 125 includes no such definition.

Accordingly, House Bill No. 125 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 166 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 166 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill would have required the state to adopt economic forecasts for additional years into the future, essentially requiring state economists to commit to speculative guesses about future economic conditions. It would have also required departmental budgeting authorities to make the same speculative projections about what their budgets would contain, multiple years into the future.

Currently, the legislature crafts the budget for the next fiscal year using an estimate of available funds adopted by the Revenue Estimating Conference ("REC"). The REC adopts an official forecast based on an estimate generated by the Division of Administration or the Legislative Fiscal Office. Economists from each entity use detailed economic models to formulate projections, which are derived from examining the current year's performance and account for any expected gain or loss in revenue. During my tenure as Governor, we have seen how unpredictable even current year projections can be. Just last month, the REC adopted a forecast of expected tax taxes, licenses, and fees more than \$800 million higher than the forecast it had approved five months earlier in December.

Furthermore, it would be unworkable for departments to provide detailed speculative estimates of expenditures and budget analysis in out years. Departmental expenditures are reliant on appropriations by the legislature, which can change from year to year in response to legislative priorities and changing circumstances. Moreover, while the fiscal note acknowledges a relatively modest \$97,000 one-time cost to begin this process, it does not account for the significant increase in workload and staff that would be necessary to achieve the directives of this legislation. And such a process would yield results that are, at best, unreliable.

Ultimately, even with expert economists and sophisticated economic modeling, there is no oracular solution that could provide us in December 2023 with precise or useful predictions about Louisiana's total revenues and expenditures in 2027. For these reasons, I have vetoed this bill.

Accordingly, House Bill 166 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 182 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 182 of the Regular Session of 2023.

As I wrote in my veto message for a similar bill, House Bill 54 of the 2022 Regular Session, "the bill is unnecessary and perpetuates the false narrative that the residents of Louisiana face vaccine mandates to access government services or attend schools. This is not the case. The bill also seeks to undermine public confidence in vaccines, which are safe, effective, and essential to public health."

What was true a year ago remains true now. I continue to have the utmost confidence in our Department of Health to protect the health and safety of the people of Louisiana, and I trust its judgment

and expertise in matters of public health. For these reasons, I have vetoed the bill.

Accordingly, House Bill 182 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 260 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 260 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill is virtually identical to House Bill 359 of the 2022 Regular Session. The bill would require election officials to obtain permission of the House and Senate Governmental Affairs Committees before implementing federal directives or guidance "not explicitly required by state or federal law." As I stated in my veto letter to House Bill 359 in 2022, this would potentially allow the legislature to prohibit an election official from adopting a federal best practice, inserting politics into the administration of elections and voter registration. It would also violate Article 2, Section 2 of the Louisiana Constitution, which provides that elections are conducted by local officials and the executive branch.

For the same reasons I vetoed House Bill 359 in 2022, I have vetoed House Bill 260 in 2023.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 466 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 466 of the Regular Session of 2023.

House Bill 466 aims to prohibit teachers, school employees, or other school presenters from engaging in discussions regarding sexual orientation and gender identity. This bill unfairly places vulnerable children at the front lines of a vicious culture war. Further, the language would lead to absurd consequences. As passed, the mere mention of one's spouse who happens to be the same gender could cause the school employee or presenter to run afoul of the law without ill intentions and educators would be prohibited from

teaching United States Supreme Court jurisprudence (see *Obergefell v. Hodges*) as well as from the Bible, which was just authorized as a course of instruction (see the Book of Leviticus).

The bill is also unduly harsh as it allows students, teachers, and others serving students to totally disregard a student's autonomy by forcing the student to answer to pronouns that they do not wish to use. Every parent would have to provide written permission to the school to allow or direct the employee to use pronouns differing from pronouns used in accordance with the child's gender assigned at birth. This forced rejection of self-identity is particularly cruel to a child and this cruelty may adversely affect the child in their formative years.

On Tuesday of this week, the Journal of the American Medical Association published the results of a Danish study conducted over forty years on nearly seven million people, which concluded that transgender people attempt suicide at 7.7 times the rate of the rest of the population, with 3.5 times the rate of suicide deaths. Transgender children require our compassion and our help, no matter our differences. We may not always understand each other, but we cannot ignore our fellow citizens' basic humanity. It is the duty of our schools to create an environment that fosters and supports all of the children of our state, to help them succeed academically and professionally. As I stated in response to another unnecessary and harmful bill from a previous session, "the real harm of this bill is that it would set as the policy of the State of Louisiana that there is something wrong with these children and that they should be treated differently from whom they really are. All of us are sons and daughters of this great state, and we should do and be better than that."

The effects of this bill may be to simply give legislative blessing for sanctioned bullying of LGBTQ children in schools under the guise of religious freedom. Should the same constitutional protections for adults not be available to school children? While there is an attempt to provide safeguards for a student who may have a pronoun that a school employee refuses to use for religious and moral reasons, the bill falls painfully short of actually protecting children.

I believe this legislation is rooted in discrimination fueled by ignorance and hatred. But even considering the argument for religious freedom, the drafting of this bill is so flawed and leaves the reader with so many questions that enactment of this bill would prove unworkable, burdensome, cruel, and likely unconstitutional.

Accordingly, House Bill 466 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 585 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 585 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill would have required the state to develop a new "comprehensive strategic plan for economic development," as well as



to create a new council to be staffed by Louisiana Economic Development ("LED").

Much of what this bill seeks to accomplish is unnecessary and duplicative. This bill would have created the "Council of Economic Prosperity" to dictate and supervise economic policy, including the creation of a strategic master plan for economic development, and performing functions which are already handled by the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation. LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTE 39:31 currently requires LED to produce and publish a 5-year strategic plan, which is revised and updated at least every three years. LED delivers this strategic plan, and any subsequent revisions, to the Commissioner of Administration, the House Committee on Commerce, the Senate Committee on Commerce, the House Fiscal Division, the Senate Fiscal Division, the Legislative Fiscal Office, and the Office of the Legislative Auditor. In total, LED currently conducts 53 annual reports, including 22 LED major reports and 31 reports required by state law, all of which are provided to the legislature and available to the public at <http://www.opportunitylouisiana.gov>.

Finally, to implement the directives of this legislation and to develop a new strategic master plan, the state would have been required to contract with consultants, at a cost to the taxpayers of at least \$1.1 million. The legislature did not appropriate funds to achieve this, thus this would have amounted to an unfunded mandate, requiring Louisiana Economic Development to sacrifice already-committed resources for the sake of creating a new, unnecessary set of reports and guidelines. For these reasons, I have vetoed this bill.

Accordingly, House Bill 585 will not become law.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 646 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 646 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill is similar to House Bill 35 of the 2022 Regular Session and House Bill 138 of the 2021 Regular Session. Those bills would have required the Secretary of State to conduct a supplemental annual canvass of voters in addition to the existing annual canvass conducted by registrars of voters pursuant to La. R.S. 18:192. The primary difference in House Bill 646 is that the supplemental annual canvass would occur at the same time as the regular annual canvass, instead of after registrars send address confirmation cards. Even with this minor change, the supplemental annual canvass would remain duplicative and expand the possibility that voters would be removed from the rolls.

For the same reasons I vetoed House Bill 138 in 2021 and House Bill 35 in 2022, I have vetoed House Bill 646.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 648 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 648 of the 2023 Regular Session.

This bill is entitled the "Stop Harming Our Kids Act," which is ironic because that is precisely what it does. This bill denies healthcare to a very small, unique, and vulnerable group of children. It forces children currently stabilized on medication to treat a legitimate healthcare diagnosis to stop taking it. It threatens the professional licensure of the limited number of specialists who treat the healthcare needs of these children. It takes away parental rights to work with a physician to make important healthcare decisions for children experiencing a gender crisis that could quite literally save their lives. And, without doubt, it is part of a targeted assault on children that the bill itself deems not "normal."

When I became governor of this state in 2016 my first action was to expand Medicaid to make sure that the people of Louisiana had access to much needed healthcare. I have also recognized that in some instances, such as to curtail the opioid crisis, legitimate limitations, safeguards, or prior authorizations on certain medicines may be necessary. During my two terms as governor, I have signed into law many instruments that prioritized safely increasing access to mental and physical healthcare for adults and children in this state. It is unfathomable to think that in my last few months serving as governor of this state that I would sign into law a bill that categorically denies healthcare for children and families based on propaganda and misinformation generated by national interest groups.

I have followed the debate on this bill closely as it spread across our country. I have had the benefit of hearing the inflammatory talking points of the proponents regurgitated in each state. I have reviewed the litigation pending in states that have already enacted this law and I have read the decision issuing an injunction against implementation of the same bill in Florida, released by a federal district court in Florida on June 6, 2023. I have been able to study every word of this bill not only as governor, but as a trained lawyer for nearly twenty-five years. My job as governor is to protect the children and families of Louisiana, my service in the military instilled in me the need to make decisions based on data and facts, and my training as a lawyer allows me to critically scrutinize the words in this Enrolled bill. I assessed the need for this bill based on Louisiana data and facts and read every word of this bill multiple times to determine if there was any possible merit to this bill. There is not.

According to the March 2023 Louisiana Department of Health's Study on Gender Reassignment Procedures on Minors, from 2017 - 2021 there were zero gender reassignment surgical procedures performed on children in Louisiana, zero. The proponents of this bill suggest that it is necessary to stop physicians from mutilating our children by performing gruesome sex change surgeries. This is simply not happening in Louisiana. In fact, there was never any evidence or testimony that it was happening here and if it were, it would be a

most egregious example of breach of standard of care and medical malpractice. I have faith and trust in our Louisiana physicians that they are not performing any unnecessary surgical procedures on children who have been diagnosed with gender dysphoria. In fact there are a great number of medical associations that acknowledge and support treatment for this diagnosis, including.

The Gender Reassignment report further showed that the entire issue of gender reassignment impacts a very small subset of the population. In 2021, of 794,779 children enrolled in Medicaid only 465 were diagnosed by a healthcare provider with gender dysphoria, and of those only 57 were ultimately considered candidates for puberty blockers or hormone replacements. Also, in 2021 there were only 12 providers statewide who prescribed puberty blockers or hormone replacements based on a diagnosis of gender dysphoria. So, out of more than three quarters of a million children in Louisiana who are receiving medically approved and appropriate healthcare for a recognized medical diagnosis, this bill is targeting 57 of those who are receiving treatment from only 12 providers in this state.

Data and facts do not support the need for this bill. But what makes this bill even more appropriate for a veto are the multiple vague, unenforceable, and unconstitutional provisions littered throughout the bill. I have never issued a veto message with the degree of detail that I am providing here. However, HB 648 is so blatantly defective on so many levels that brevity is impossible.

In §1098.1(1), the definition of "healthcare professional" used in this bill is highly questionable as it cross-references a statute in the criminal code that establishes the crime of battery of emergency room personnel, R.S.14:34.8. This criminal code statute covers a sweeping breadth of healthcare professionals, ranging from a physician all the way to "any other person who otherwise assists in or supports the performance of healthcare services" and every potential provider in between. It demonstrates a lack of interest or proper research on which professionals make up the multidisciplinary teams that provide healthcare for children with gender dysphoria and confirms that this bill is a solution looking for a problem.

In §1098.2(A), the preface of the restrictions in this bill includes phrases such as "attempt to alter a minor's appearance," "attempt to validate minor's perception of his sex," and "minor's perception is inconsistent with his sex." All of these phrases completely disregard the more than thirty professional medical associations and organizations that have recognized gender dysphoria as a medical condition with a legitimate diagnosis that can be addressed with necessary lifesaving treatments. It exemplifies that this bill is not intended to protect children from malpractice, harmful, or unnecessary procedures. But rather, this bill dismisses the medical legitimacy of gender dysphoria as a healthcare condition by purporting to put into law that healthcare providers are attempting to validate perceptions. How can this be enforced? Who decides perception? Are trained physicians and psychologists in this state unable to make a diagnosis at risk of losing their licenses? There can be no greater abuse of lawmaking privileges than to use the law to disregard a medical condition and minimize the necessity of healthcare treatments by telling patients that their genuine illness is just a perception, telling healthcare professionals that their ability to diagnose and treat is terminated, and telling parents they have no power to direct the healthcare of their children.

The first two restrictions in this bill, §1098.2(A)(1) and (2), prohibit prescription or administration of puberty blockers and hormone replacements. I relied on the data and facts and learned that very few children are candidates for these medications and may only be considered a potential candidate after two years of intense therapy and counseling, along with counseling for the parents. Much has been said by the proponents of this bill regarding side effects. However, as with any informed decision regarding healthcare, the parents and physicians must engage in a dialogue regarding the risks and rewards of taking any medications. It was well documented in the Gender Reassignment report that children with gender dysphoria have higher

rates of depression and suicidal ideation. Parents testified during the hearings on the bill that their children had either tried to commit suicide or had strong suicidal tendencies. Surely, the legislature should not prohibit a discussion between a parent, child, and physician regarding an option to take medications just because there could be side effects, when doing so could also prevent a suicide. In fact, the New York Times recently reported these children experience attempts of suicide at a rate of seven times higher than other children.

The remaining restrictions in this bill, §1098.2(A)(3), (4), (5), and (6), prohibit gender reassignment surgeries on children. Since there are zero instances of physicians performing gender reassignment surgeries in Louisiana, I can only speculate that this was included in the bill at such length and with such vivid descriptions to generate concern and outrage where none was warranted. I think we all agree on both sides of this debate that children should not have unnecessary surgical procedures to change their gender. I believe that is why there have been zero surgical procedures in Louisiana. I can even agree with that prohibition in this bill, but unfortunately that is not the intent of this bill and seemed to be included for dramatic effect to overshadow the medically appropriate use of puberty blockers and hormone replacements. In fact, the bill's author and proponents refused to limit the bill's scope to prohibiting surgical intervention precisely because it is the hormone treatments they are really targeting.

There is language in this bill following the restrictions, §1098.2(B) and (C), that are incorrect and legally convoluted. The bill states in effect that the prohibited acts of prescribing or administering puberty blockers or hormone replacements or performing surgical procedures "shall not be considered healthcare services" but then states the prohibition of prescribing or administering puberty blockers or hormone replacements or performing surgical procedures "shall not limit or restrict the provision of healthcare." This is so poorly written that I cannot begin to suggest that I understand the legislative intent, but I do know that prescribing or administering puberty blockers or hormone replacements constitute healthcare services. The vagueness of these two statements and utter confusion that this will cause in the medical community and how they might be enforced are justification for a veto.

This bill has other structural defects that make it ripe for a veto. In the Enrolled bill, page 3, lines 1 through 14, there are four enumerated paragraphs that make statements about minors, but there is no preface or introductory paragraph to clearly state what these paragraphs are meant to allow or prohibit. They are not identified as exceptions to the prohibitions in §1098.2(A) and they are not clearly identified as allowable provisions of healthcare pursuant to §1098.2(C). In Subsection (C), "provision of healthcare" is not defined. There is no way for a healthcare provider to know what he may or may not do that could jeopardize his career and make his professional license subject to revocation or subject to other penalties provided for in this bill. This will chill the willingness of physicians to provide a whole range of healthcare treatments and procedures to transgender and cisgender kids alike, such as an endocrinologist prescribing puberty blockers to an eight year old who has started menstruation.

Although the context and scope of the statements in the Enrolled bill at page 3, lines 1 through 14 are vague, the discriminatory nature is crystal clear. It is at this point in this bill that the legislature is most blatantly discriminating against transgender children compared to those the legislature considers "normal." All four of these paragraphs, regardless of their purpose in this bill, are somehow even more offensive and create even greater legal uncertainty for the patients, families, and healthcare providers who are affected by this bill. Paragraph (1) uses the phrase "verifiable disorder of sex development, including but not limited to" - what else might the disorder be, could it be mental?; paragraph (2) distinguishes transgender children from "normal" children - what a blatant form of discrimination and who determines what is normal?; paragraph (3)

addresses needing treatment caused by a "procedure prohibited by" this bill - what does this allow a provider to actually do?; paragraph (4) states the child is a candidate for "surgery" if there is threat of imminent danger of death or impairment - does this mean the legislature prefers surgery over puberty blockers or hormone replacements? It is legally impossible to determine what these four paragraphs ultimately mean or do or how a healthcare provider can comply with them.

Each Subsection of this bill is worse than the one before and §1098.2(D) is no exception. This provision is a legislative expression of disdain and disregard for transgender children. The overall effect of this Subsection is that a child who is being treated by a multidisciplinary team of healthcare experts on gender dysphoria, that has gone through two years of therapy, whose parents have gone through therapy, and who is stabilized on puberty blockers or hormone replacement therapy must stop taking those medications. There are no exceptions, authorizations, or minimum standards. The proponents of this bill graciously call this the "weening period." There is no word to describe this other than cruel. And, to make matters worse, the legislature is saying in this provision that it is acceptable to start a child on these medications between now and January 1, 2024, but then you still must take them off by December 31, 2024. So, every child currently stabilized on these medications must stop taking them and providers can continue to initiate treatment for the next six months, but then they must undo whatever good they have achieved for the child. The harm that this provision will cause to children, families, and healthcare providers makes it worthy of a veto.

Further evidence of the punitive nature of this bill is the healthcare professional disciplinary penalty in §1098.3. Our Louisiana healthcare professionals who are following the standards of care and best practices recognized by thirty professional medical associations and organizations risk having their licenses revoked for simply using their professional medical judgment to treat a child with gender dysphoria. A license revocation is the most severe action that a licensing board can take. Even though the revocation penalty in this bill is for two years, that may as well be a lifetime ban. A healthcare provider whose license has been revoked will have to report that long after the two-year period imposed by this bill and may cause secondary penalties such as being denied hospital admitting privileges or refusal to be included in a health plan insurer network. Because this bill unfairly penalizes healthcare providers for taking care of their patients it must be vetoed.

The provisions of this bill relative to consent, §1098.4, are as legally ambiguous as so many other parts of this bill. Subsection (A) states that a minor cannot consent to taking puberty blockers or hormone replacements or having surgical procedures, but (B) states that the minor can consent if they are subject to the provisions of §1098.2(D). It is hard to comprehend the intent of the legislature here since §1098.2(D) is the cruel provision that requires stabilized children to be taken off of their medication. Is the desired result that a child can consent to gender affirming care only in instances when the child is being denied continued use of gender dysphoria medication? And, based on the plain language of this bill, does this mean that a child stabilized on medication could conceivably consent to a surgical procedure during the weening period? Because it is impossible to know what exactly the child can consent to in this part of the bill, it must be vetoed.

The civil action provisions of §1098.5 are also vague and create a legal right of action without clarifying who the right of action is granted to and who it is against. This part of the bill interchangeably uses "minor" and "person" without clarifying whether it means the person is the minor, is the minor upon reaching the age of majority, is the minor's parents, or is it just any "person" who alleges harm. And, what is the threshold of "harm"? Is it physical or mental harm? Is the private right of action against the prescriber of the puberty blockers or hormone replacement therapy or does this give a right of action against "any other person who otherwise assists in or supports

the performance of healthcare services." Who does this apply to? The receptionist at the physician's office? And, what is meant by "harm" as a result of acts which are prohibited." It doesn't say harmed as a result of the prohibited act, but rather harmed as a result of acts which are prohibited. There is a real legal distinction between harm by an act and harm because an act was prohibited. Could a parent whose child commits suicide "as a result of acts which are prohibited" by the bill have a private right of action against a healthcare provider for not providing care? Finally, §1098.5(D)(2) provides for "damages for infertility or sterility," but there is no way to prove that the infertility or sterility were caused by the puberty blockers or hormone replacement therapy. The convoluted civil action provisions of this bill make it worthy of a veto.

The final provision of this bill is §1098.6, which gives the attorney general authority to bring a civil action to enforce compliance with the bill. So, collectively this bill gives a licensing board authority to revoke a healthcare providers license for two years, gives the child and apparently any other "person" a private right of action to sue any number of individuals who fall under the healthcare professional definition in this bill, and now gives the attorney general the authority to seek injunctive, declaratory, or "any other appropriate remedy" to enforce this bill. I can only speculate that all of this was included in this bill to maximize intimidation and fear by healthcare providers who care for children with gender dysphoria. This bill's complete overkill on enforcement and private rights of action makes it worthy of a veto.

There are so many fundamental problems with this bill that I must believe that many of its most staunch supporters have never read it word by word, line by line, like I have. I think that in this instance, in following other Southern states passing this bill, legislators put politics over people without considering the practical impacts of the bill. I firmly believe that the legislature has overstepped its authority and is interfering in critical healthcare decisions that only parents should make in consultation with their children and their children's physicians and psychologists. This certainly isn't an example of small, limited government that the bill proponents profess to champion.

Just as conservative courts have found in Alabama, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, and Tennessee, I believe that there is no legitimate state interest and no rational basis that justifies harming this very small population of children, their families, and the healthcare professionals who care for them or for the cruel and extreme consequences imposed on children through the overt denial of healthcare by this bill. I believe that this bill violates the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause because it targets and limits healthcare to transgender children that remain available to "normal" children. And finally, I believe that time will show that this veto was not just an exercise in compassion and respect for transgender children and their parents, but it was also the only legally responsible action to take because it is what is constitutionally required of me to do to uphold my oath of office as governor.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 659 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 659 of the 2023 Regular Session.

House Bill 659 requires offenders twenty-one years of age or older residing in this state to register with local law enforcement after having been convicted of aggravated battery or aggravated second degree battery when the victim is a minor. Senate Bill 217 of the 2023 Regular Session, which creates a statewide database for individuals convicted of child abuse and neglect, has already been signed into law, and would extend registration of those individuals addressed in House Bill 659. Therefore, to eliminate confusion, Senate Bill 217 of the 2023 Regular Session should become the most recent expression of legislative intent.

For this reason, I have vetoed the bill.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 661 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 661 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill would have implemented several changes to the statute that outlines the role and responsibilities of the Judicial Council, specifically adding language regarding the elimination of judgeships. In last year's redistricting session, the legislature failed to approve new maps for judicial districts, while passing a fundamentally unfair and unrepresentative congressional map. I cannot in good conscience sign legislation into law whose language, without the Legislature intending it, could be twisted to promote further disenfranchisement and reduce the representation of one third of the citizenry of Louisiana in the future.

Further, this bill also contains a costly provision that would mandate that clerks of court throughout the state submit detailed reports to the Judicial Council and adopt uniform standards for filing and reporting when the Supreme Court adopts those standards. Though there has been money dedicated for the Council's administration of a new Court Modernization and Technology Fund, these funds are insufficient to finance the potentially burdensome investments in technology that compliance with this bill would require from the clerks of court, resulting in an unfunded mandate.

For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 661 and returned it to the House.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 30, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Line Item Vetoes in House Bill 2 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder and President Cortez:

Please allow this letter to inform you that I have signed House Bill 2 of the 2023 Regular Session. The enrolled House Bill 2 contains \$1.74 billion in Priority 1 general obligation bond appropriations, \$101.7 million in Priority 2 general obligation bond appropriations, and \$5.9 billion in Priority 5 general obligation bond appropriations. Even further, the surplus cash is over appropriated by \$7,190,550 above the amount of surplus available for appropriation.

The overall magnitude of the bill as finally passed is far beyond the state's capacity to fund it in any reasonable way or amount of time. The intent of the capital outlay bill is to provide for a 5-year capital outlay budget. However, the general obligation bond portion of the enrolled House Bill 2 is well over a 10-year plan. Only about 10% of the Priority 5 in the bill as finally passed would be able to move forward in FY 25 for projects that were planned with a cash means of finance in FY 24. There is no possible way to veto enough projects to bring the bill back in balance, nor is vetoing the entire bill an option because there is no guarantee that another attempt would yield a different result. The only option going forward is to manage the projects through the Bond Commission and through the next administration and legislature. However, I have exercised my line item veto authority granted to me to veto 18 items.

I have exercised my line item veto authority as follows:

- Veto No. 1: Delete Lines 30-34 on Page 54 of 161
- Veto No. 2: Delete Lines 9-13 on Page 56 of 161
- Veto No. 3: Delete Lines 1-6 on Page 57 of 161
- Veto No. 4: Delete Lines 23-26 on Page 78 of 161
- Veto No. 5: Delete Lines 27-31 on Page 78 of 161
- Veto No. 6: Delete Lines 32-35 on Page 78 of 161
- Veto No. 7: Delete Lines 36-40 on Page 78 of 161
- Veto No. 8: Delete Lines 29-33 on Page 80 of 161
- Veto No. 9: Delete Lines 34-38 on Page 80 of 161
- Veto No. 10: Delete Lines 25-30 on Page 84 of 161
- Veto No. 11: Delete Lines 47-49 on Page 87 of 161
- Veto No. 12: Delete Lines 1-3 on Page 93 of 161
- Veto No. 13: Delete Lines 23-31 on Page 93 of 161

- Veto No. 14: Delete Lines 26-32 on Page 105 of 161
- Veto No. 15: Delete Lines 11-19 on Page 124 of 161
- Veto No. 16: Delete Lines 9-19 on Page 126 of 161
- Veto No. 17: Delete Lines 35-39 on Page 129 of 161
- Veto No. 18: Delete Lines 18-23 on Page 130 of 161

Enclosed is a copy of the signed version of House Bill 2. I have sent the original to the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 29, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Line Item Vetoes in House Bill 1 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder and President Cortez:

Please allow this letter to inform you that I have signed House Bill 1 of the 2023 Regular Session. However, I have exercised my line item veto authority granted to me to veto 5 items.

I have exercised my line item veto authority as follows:

- Veto No. 1: Delete Lines 41-43 on Page 42 of 175
- Veto No. 2: Delete Lines 6-9 on Page 72 of 175

Veto No. 2 restores the \$100 million reduction in funding to Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to protect against devastating programmatic cuts that would result from loss of the funding and the federal matching funds, totaling between \$400 million and \$700 million that were discussed in the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on June 20 and that were outlined in the letter sent to me by the committee after the hearing asking that I restore the funds.

- Veto No. 3: Delete Lines 19-21 on Page 85 of 175
- Veto No. 4: Delete Lines 13-21 on Page 109 of 175

Veto No. 4 cuts the additional \$125 million payment to the LASERS IUAL, which was made on top of nearly \$225 million in additional payments by the state on unfunded accrued liabilities in HB 560 on top of the required annual payment, to restore the \$100 million reduction to LDH, the \$50,000 restoration in Veto No. 1 to the LED business development program, the \$2 million restoration in Veto No. 3 for outreach for the Cancer Research Center, and the \$7.5 million restoration in Veto No. 5 for early childhood education seats.

- Veto No. 5: Delete Lines 1-3 on Page 137 of 175

Veto No. 5 restores a \$7.5 million dollar reduction to Department of Education for the non-federal support program that will be used for early childhood education seats.

Enclosed is a copy of the signed version of House Bill 1. I have sent the original to the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

June 30, 2023

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder and President Cortez:

Please let this letter serve as formal notification that I have acted on all bills sent to me from the 2023 Regular Session. In addition to the vetoed bills I returned while the Legislature was in session, I have vetoed 25 bills (HB 81, HB 85, HB 91, HB 125, HB 166, HB 182, HB 188, HB 205, HB 260, HB 309, HB 399, HB 415, HB 466, HB 504, HB 585, HB 646, HB 648, HB 658, HB 659, HB 661, SB 1, SB 6, SB 123, SB 159, and SB 196). I have signed the remaining 458 bills sent to me and submitted them to the Secretary of State. I have also signed HB 1 which contains 5 line item vetoes, HB 2 which contains 18 line item vetoes, and HB 560 which contains 19 line item vetoes.

Sincerely,  
JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
Governor

**Reconsideration of Vetoed Bills**

**SENATE BILL NO. 1—**  
BY SENATOR ALLAIN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:601(D)(2) and 1675(J) and to enact R.S. 47:601(E) and 1675(K), relative to the corporation franchise tax; to provide for the reduction of franchise tax under certain circumstances; to provide for the utilization of credits against repealed taxes; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

On motion of Senator Allain, the bill was read by title and returned to the Calendar, subject to call.

**SENATE BILL NO. 6—**  
BY SENATOR ALLAIN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 51:2455(D)(3)(c) and to enact R.S. 51:2455(D)(3)(d) and 2456(B)(2) and (3), relative to the Quality Jobs Program; to provide for application due dates; to provide relative to sales and use tax and qualified capital expenditure rebates; to provide for the reduction of the rebates under certain conditions; and to provide for related matters.

On motion of Senator Allain, the bill was read by title and returned to the Calendar, subject to call.

SENATE BILL NO. 123— BY SENATOR HENRY AND REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:3(A), 1300.2(A)(2), (C)(1) and (2), and (D), 1300.3(A) and (B), and 1300.5 and R.S. 44:4.1(B)(10), relative to recall elections; to provide relative to recall petitions; to provide relative to public records; and to provide for related matters.

On motion of Senator Henry, the bill was read by title and returned to the Calendar, subject to call.

SENATE BILL NO. 159— BY SENATOR CATHEY AN ACT

To amend and reenact Children's Code Art. 804(1), relative to juvenile court jurisdiction; to provide relative to the definition of "child" for purposes of delinquency proceedings; and to provide for related matters.

On motion of Senator Cathey, the bill was read by title and returned to the Calendar, subject to call.

SENATE BILL NO. 196— BY SENATOR PEACOCK AND REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO AN ACT

To enact Chapter 2-C of Title 12 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 9:3580.1 through R.S. 9:3580.5, relative to litigation disclosure; to provide relative to financial disclosure; to provide relative to the creation of the Litigation Financing Disclosure and Security Protection Act; to provide for definitions, terms, and conditions; to provide for discovery; to provide for contract disclosures; to provide with respect to class action lawsuits; to provide for violations and contracts; and to provide for related matters.

On motion of Senator Peacock, the bill was read by title and returned to the Calendar, subject to call.

Message from the House

RELATIVE TO THE GUBERNATORIAL VETO

July 18, 2023

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House of Representatives, by a two-thirds vote of its elected members, has passed House Bill No. 648 subsequent to the Gubernatorial Veto.

Respectfully submitted, MICHELLE D. FONTENOT Clerk of the House of Representatives

Rules Suspended

Senator Morris asked for a suspension of the rules for the purpose of taking up House Bill No. 648.

Without objection, so ordered.

Senator Morris moved to reconsider HB No. 648 subsequent to the Governor's Veto.

Senator Boudreaux objected.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following result:

YEAS

Table with 3 columns: Name, Henry, Mizell. Includes Mr. President, Abraham, Allain, Bernard, Cathey, Cloud, Connick, Fesi, Foil, Mills, R., and Total - 27.

NAYS

Table with 3 columns: Name, Luneau, Smith. Includes Barrow, Boudreaux, Fields, and Total - 7.

ABSENT

Table with 3 columns: Name, Duplessis, Tarver. Includes Bouie, Carter, and Total - 5.

The Chair declared the bill was reconsidered.

Motion to Override

Senator Morris moved to pass House Bill No. 648 subsequent to the Governor's veto.

HOUSE BILL NO. 648— (Substitute for House Bill No. 463 by Representative Firmont)

BY REPRESENTATIVES FIRMENT, AMEDEE, CREWS, GAROFALO, AND HORTON

AN ACT

To enact Part IX of Chapter 5-A of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:1098.1 through 1098.6, relative to certain procedures for minor children; to provide for definitions; to exclude certain services, treatments, and procedures that alter the sex characteristics of a minor; to provide certain restrictions for healthcare professionals; to establish disciplinary procedures; to provide with respect to consent; to provide for legal remedies; and to provide for related matters.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following result:

YEAS

Table with 3 columns: Name, Hensgens, Peacock. Includes Mr. President, Abraham, Allain, Bernard, Cathey, Cloud, Connick, Fesi, Foil, Henry, Mills, R., Mizell, Morris, and Total - 28.

NAYS

Table with 3 columns: Name, Duplessis, Mills, F. Includes Barrow, Boudreaux, Bouie, Fields, Harris, Price, Smith.

Carter  
Total - 11

Luneau  
ABSENT

Total - 0

The Chair declared the bill was passed subsequent to the Governor's veto. Senator Morris moved to reconsider the vote by which House Bill No. 648 was passed subsequent to the Governor's veto and laid that motion on the table.

**Message from the House**

**RELATIVE TO A GUBERNATORIAL VETO**

July 18, 2023

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House of Representatives, by a two-thirds vote of its elected members, has passed House Bill No. 125 subsequent to the Gubernatorial Veto.

Respectfully submitted,  
MICHELLE D. FONTENOT  
Clerk of the House of Representatives

**Rules Suspended**

Senator Cathey asked for a suspension of the rules for the purpose of taking up House Bill No. 125.

Without objection, so ordered.

Senator Cathey moved to reconsider House Bill No. 125 subsequent to the Governor's Veto.

Senator Price objected.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called with the following result:

**YEAS**

|               |            |         |
|---------------|------------|---------|
| Mr. President | Hensgens   | Morris  |
| Abraham       | Hewitt     | Peacock |
| Allain        | Kleinpeter | Pope    |
| Cathey        | Lambert    | Reese   |
| Cloud         | McMath     | Stine   |
| Fesi          | Milligan   | Talbot  |
| Foil          | Mills, R.  | White   |
| Henry         | Mizell     | Womack  |
| Total - 24    |            |         |

**NAYS**

|            |           |           |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Barrow     | Duplessis | Mills, F. |
| Bernard    | Fields    | Price     |
| Boudreaux  | Harris    | Smith     |
| Bouie      | Jackson   | Tarver    |
| Carter     | Luneau    |           |
| Total - 14 |           |           |

**ABSENT**

Connick  
Total - 1

The Chair declared the bill was reconsidered.

**Motion to Override**

Senator Cathey moved to pass House Bill No. 125 subsequent to the Governor's veto.

**HOUSE BILL NO. 125—**

BY REPRESENTATIVES ECHOLS, GAROFALO, AND THOMPSON  
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 3:3613, relative to protection of agricultural lands from foreign adversaries; to restrict a foreign adversary with an ownership interest in a corporately formed business from owning or having an interest in agricultural land; to provide for exceptions; to provide for reporting requirements; to provide for definitions; to authorize the attorney general to take certain actions in response to violations involving the acquisition or sale of immovable property by foreign adversaries; to authorize certain courts to issue orders against foreign adversaries; to provide for immunity from liability for certain professionals involved in the consummation of real estate transactions; to provide for forfeiture and civil penalties; and to provide for related matters.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called with the following result:

**YEAS**

|               |            |         |
|---------------|------------|---------|
| Mr. President | Hensgens   | Morris  |
| Abraham       | Hewitt     | Peacock |
| Allain        | Kleinpeter | Reese   |
| Cathey        | Lambert    | Stine   |
| Cloud         | McMath     | Talbot  |
| Fesi          | Milligan   | White   |
| Foil          | Mills, R.  | Womack  |
| Henry         | Mizell     |         |
| Total - 23    |            |         |

**NAYS**

|            |           |           |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Barrow     | Duplessis | Mills, F. |
| Bernard    | Fields    | Pope      |
| Boudreaux  | Harris    | Price     |
| Bouie      | Jackson   | Smith     |
| Carter     | Luneau    | Tarver    |
| Total - 15 |           |           |

**ABSENT**

Connick  
Total - 1

The Chair declared the motion failed to be adopted.

**Message from the House**

**RELATIVE TO A GUBERNATORIAL VETO**

July 18, 2023

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House of Representatives, by a two-thirds vote of its elected members, has passed House Bill No. 399 subsequent to the Gubernatorial Veto.

Respectfully submitted,  
MICHELLE D. FONTENOT  
Clerk of the House of Representatives

**Rules Suspended**

Senator Talbot asked for a suspension of the rules for the purpose of taking up House Bill No. 399.

July 18, 2023

Without objection, so ordered.

Senator Talbot moved to reconsider House Bill No. 399 subsequent to the Governor's Veto.

Senator Fields objected.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following result:

YEAS

Mr. President Hensgens Morris
Abraham Hewitt Peacock
Allain Kleinpeter Pope
Cathey Lambert Reese
Cloud McMath Stine
Fesi Milligan Talbot
Foil Mills, R. White
Henry Mizell Womack
Total - 24

NAYS

Barrow Duplessis Mills, F.
Bernard Fields Price
Boudreaux Harris Smith
Bouie Jackson Tarver
Carter Luneau
Total - 14

ABSENT

Connick
Total - 1

The Chair declared the bill was reconsidered.

Motion to Override

Senator Talbot moved to pass House Bill No. 399 subsequent to the Governor's veto.

HOUSE BILL NO. 399—
BY REPRESENTATIVES EDMONSTON, AMEDEE, GAROFALO, AND CHARLES OWEN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:170(E) and (F) and to enact R.S. 17:170(G), relative to student immunization requirements; to require that any communication issued to students or their parents or guardians relative to immunization requirements include information relative to exemption from such requirements; to provide that exemptions apply to those attending schools in addition to those seeking to enter schools; to provide relative to students registered for courses that do not meet physically; and to provide for related matters.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following result:

YEAS

Mr. President Hensgens Morris
Abraham Hewitt Peacock
Allain Kleinpeter Reese
Cathey Lambert Stine
Cloud McMath Talbot
Fesi Milligan White
Foil Mills, R. Womack
Henry Mizell
Total - 23

NAYS

Barrow Duplessis Pope
Bernard Fields Price
Boudreaux Harris Smith
Bouie Jackson Tarver
Carter Luneau
Connick Mills, F.
Total - 16

ABSENT

Total - 0

The Chair declared the motion failed to be adopted.

Motion

Senator Boudreaux moved that the Senate adjourn Sine Die prior to the end of the fifth day and asks the House of Representatives to do the same.

Without objection, so ordered.

Message from the House

RELATIVE TO ADJOURNMENT

July 18, 2023

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate:

I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House of Representatives, by a two-thirds vote of its elected members, has consented to adjourn sine die prior to the end of the 5th day of this veto session.

Respectfully submitted,
MICHELLE D. FONTENOT
Clerk of the House of Representatives

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following result:

PRESENT

Mr. President Fields Mills, R.
Abraham Foil Mizell
Allain Harris Morris
Barrow Henry Peacock
Bernard Hensgens Pope
Boudreaux Hewitt Price
Bouie Jackson Reese
Carter Kleinpeter Smith
Cathey Lambert Stine
Cloud Luneau Talbot
Connick McMath Tarver
Duplessis Milligan White
Fesi Mills, F. Womack
Total - 39

ABSENT

Total - 0

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Talbot, at 4:49 o'clock P.M. the Senate adjourned Sine Die.



The President of the Senate declared the Senate adjourned Sine Die.

YOLANDA J. DIXON  
Secretary of the Senate

FRAN OGNIBENE  
Journal Clerk