

April 26, 2002

The Honorable Michael S. Baer  
Secretary of the Senate  
State Capitol  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Re: Senate Bill No. 69 by Senator Tom Schedler  
MUNICIPALITIES: Provides for annexation by municipalities.

Dear Mr. Baer:

I included in the proclamation for the special session the issue of annexation by municipalities because I had been contacted by many who felt that economic development would suffer greatly if this were not addressed.

During the session, various bills were considered and three completed the legislative process and reached my desk for consideration; i.e. Senate Bill No. 41 by Senator Mount, Senate Bill No. 69 by Senator Schedler, and House Bill No. 135 by Representative Strain. All three legislators and others worked diligently to resolve disagreements between different interest groups, both public and private. Members of my staff participated in the dialogue.

At the time Senate Bill No. 69 completed the legislative process, its provisions were a duplicate of those in House Bill No. 135. Thereafter, the house bill was significantly changed to make it compatible with Senate Bill No. 41. As the latter two bills embody the generally preferred compromise and the earlier passed Senate Bill No. 69 is no longer consistent with them, Senator Schedler asked that I prevent it from becoming law. For this reason, I am vetoing and returning it to the Senate.

Sincerely,

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.

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