

July 12, 2004

The Honorable Glenn Koepp
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Re: Senate Bill No. 41 by Senator McPherson
FISCAL CONTROLS: Provides for settlement of certain claims by the state.

Dear Mr. Koepp:

Senate Bill No. 41 would require most state agencies to provide written notice to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget prior to compromising or settling a claim in which the state has an interest valued at \$2,500,000 or greater. While I understand and will support efforts to make available early information about the state's interests in such matters which have significant fiscal impact, my concern is that as the bill completed the process it lacks adequate safeguards and so would have caused confidential information of our citizen's to become public.

The author and I have agreed to work together along with appropriate state agencies to revisit the provisions of the bill for next year to ensure that my concerns are addressed.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill No. 41 and am returning it to the Senate.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco

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