June 26, 2017

Honorable Taylor F. Barras
Speaker of the House
Louisiana House of Representatives
Post Office Box 94062
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of House Bill 568 of 2017 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Barras:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 568 of the 2017 Regular Session. House Bill 568 provides for the sharing of student information between the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) and persons conducting academic research at a postsecondary education institution accredited by a regional or national accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department of Education. The legislation requires LDOE to enter into a memorandum of understanding in which the person conducting such academic research agrees to be civilly liable for any fine imposed as a violation of authorized uses of the student information. Under current law, a person who violates authorized uses of the student information is subject to both criminal and civil penalties. House Bill 568 references civil penalties only relative to the memorandum of understanding. However, it does not create an exception to the criminal liability provisions in current law. Because of these drafting concerns, I have vetoed House Bill 568.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards
Governor

cc: Honorable Glenn Koepp