

July 12, 1999

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

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 158 BY SENATOR LENTINI

To enact R.S. 40:1299.44(D)(6), relative to medical malpractice; to prohibit certain indemnity agreements by the Patient's Compensation Fund Oversight Board and its employees, agents, and representatives; to provide for discovery of certain evidence; and to provide for related matters.

Dear Mr. Baer:

Senate Bill No. 158 amends the medical malpractice law relative to the Patient's Compensation Fund Oversight Board and the ability of the board to alter or enter into agreements with certain health care providers. Although the intent of the bill is clarifying in nature, its language is ambiguous and may erode the board's ability to protect its assets and remain solvent.

For these reasons, I am vetoing and returning Senate Bill No. 158 to you.

Sincerely,

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.

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