

State of Louisiana
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June 20, 2024

The Honorable Cameron Henry President of the Senate 900 N. 3rd St. Baton Rouge, LA 70804

The Honorable Yolanda Dixon Secretary of the Senate State Capitol 900 N. 3rd St., Basement Baton Rouge, LA 70802 RECEIVED

JUN 2 0 2024

SENATE SECRETARY'S OFFICE

RE: Senate Bill Number 97 of the 2024 Regular Session by Senator Royce Duplessis

Dear President Henry and Secretary Dixon:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 97 of the 2024 Regular Session.

Similar to HB 154, this bill seeks to regulate the use of Artificial Intelligence and requires disclosure before political communication that, "utilizes deep fake technology, artificial intelligence, or similar tools to create, alter, or otherwise manipulate media" that falsely appears to be authentic. While I commend the efforts to curb false political attacks, I believe this bill raises First Amendment concerns, particularly concerning emerging technologies. The legal landscape on this issue remains unsettled, and a thorough study of these technologies is needed before enacting such regulations.

HCR 66 from the 2024 Regular Legislative Session is a prudent first step to explore the best ways to regulate this technology. As stated in HCR 66, "the legislature requires substantially more information before it can develop policies that leverage the potential of artificial intelligence for governance while curbing its misuse by malicious actors against our state and its citizens." I support HCR 66 and note that the author of SB 97 also voted in favor of it.

Additionally, on the federal level in the United States Congress, Speaker Mike Johnson and Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries announced the establishment of a bipartisan Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to explore how Congress can ensure America continues to lead the world in AI innovation while considering guardrails that may be appropriate to safeguard the nation against current and emerging threats. https://www.speaker.gov/house-launches-bipartisan-task-force-on-artificial-intelligence/. This is a further example of how much more study is done before enacting legislation on this subject.

For these reasons, Senate Bill 97 will not become law.

Sincerely,

Governor

Enclosure: Returned Senate Bill 97