

July 1, 2020

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Clay J. Schexnayder
Speaker of the House
Louisiana House of Representatives
Post Office Box 94062
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Line Item Veto in House Bill 29 of the 2020 First Extraordinary Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have signed House Bill 29 of the First Extraordinary Session with one line item veto. I have vetoed lines 1-9 on page 5 of the bill.

My only line item veto of House Bill 29 is to remove language which deems late-filed capital outlay projects to be timely filed if the project request was received by June 30, 2020. This language is an effort to have projects considered to be requested timely even if they are not in compliance with La. R.S. 39:101. As this is a change to substantive law, this provision should not be included in an appropriation bill and it may be vetoed pursuant to the limitations on appropriations bills found in Article 3, Section 16(C) of the Louisiana Constitution. Further, and just as importantly, while the Legislature worked diligently with my administration to right size the capital outlay budget and to keep the projects in the capital outlay program under capacity, some of the late-added projects in House Bill 2 will cause the program to be over capacity. Thus, several of the late-added projects may not be able to be funded so as to keep the program under capacity. It is important to note that the two capital outlay projects in House Bill 29 are not late projects as they were properly and timely requested.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards
Governor

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President