

July 1, 2021

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Honorable Page Cortez  
Louisiana Senate President  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 224 of the 2021 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 224 of the 2021 Regular Session.

This bill, as finally passed, would require more stringent requirements to make application to vote absentee by mail than what is currently required to actually vote absentee by mail. The crux of the fate of this bill lies with Louisiana election law being changed in the haste of the final days and without proper debate creating it more difficult for the voters of Louisiana to vote absentee by mail. Louisiana election law being changed overnight without proper vetting is an incredible disservice to the people of the state. We should strive to make access to voting easier for voters, not create barriers.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards  
Governor

cc: Honorable Clay Schexnayder  
Speaker of the House of Representatives