

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



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June 18, 2022

VIA HAND DELIVERY

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

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3:05 PM
House of Representatives
Clerk's Office

RE: Veto of House Bill 969 of the 2022 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please allow this letter to inform you that I have vetoed House Bill 969 of the 2022 Regular Session.

This bill violates Article 3, Section 18(C) of the Louisiana Constitution which provides:

Veto Session. (1) A bill vetoed and returned and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the elected members of each house shall become law. The legislature shall meet in veto session in the state capital at noon on the fortieth day following final adjournment of the most recent session, to consider all bills vetoed by the governor. If the fortieth day falls on Sunday, the session shall convene at noon on the succeeding Monday. No veto session shall exceed five calendar days, and any veto session may be finally adjourned prior to the end of the fifth day upon a vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house.

This provision makes it very clear that vetoed bills may only be considered in a veto session. Further, Article 4, Section 5(G)(1) clearly provides that a line item veto may be overridden as "prescribed for the passage of a bill over a veto."

Further, Representative Greg Miller passed House Bill 166 in the 2022 Regular Session which provides for a constitutional amendment to clarify procedures for passage of a bill over the Governor's veto. This amendment will go to the voters in 2023, and if passed, will further clarify this constitutional provision.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John Bel Edwards in black ink.

John Bel Edwards
Governor

enclosure

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President