

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



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JUN 18 2022

SENATE
SECRETARY'S
OFFICE

June 18, 2022

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
President of the Senate
Louisiana Senate
Post Office Box 94062
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 304 of the 2022 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Please allow this letter to inform you that I have vetoed Senate Bill 304 of the 2022 Regular Session.

Senate Bill 304 significantly decreases the rate of diminution of sentence that can be earned by any person convicted in the death of a peace officer or first responder killed in the line of duty. The bill as passed would not take into account whether the person was convicted of an intentional crime or a crime of negligence resulting in the death of a peace officer or first responder, or whether or not the person convicted had knowledge that the victim was a peace officer or first responder working in the line of duty. While I believe the author was well intentioned, this legislation would unfairly treat a person convicted of a crime of negligence the same as a person convicted of an intentional crime. For these reasons, Senate Bill 304 will not become law.

Enclosed is the vetoed version of Senate Bill 304.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bel Edwards".

John Bel Edwards
Governor

enclosure

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President