

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



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June 27, 2023

VIA HAND DELIVERY

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

RECEIVED
JUN 28 2023
House of Representatives
Clerk's Office
Pw 10-5744

RE: Veto of House Bill 658 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised I have vetoed House Bill 658 of the 2023 Regular Session. The bill seeks to add additional layers of state bureaucracy to federal pricing transparency laws for healthcare facilities and health insurance issuers by requiring the Louisiana Department of Health and Department of Insurance to monitor and enforce compliance with existing federal law.

There is no question that pricing transparency is an important component to ensuring affordable access to healthcare for all, which is why these requirements were included in the Affordable Care Act. While I appreciate the author's and co-authors' support for my first executive action as governor in expanding Medicaid, making affordable healthcare more accessible to Louisianan, the legislation as finally passed provides for alternate notifications, timelines, and corrective action plans required by the State that do not align with federal law. Due to the confusion and administrative burden this bill will create if enacted, in addition to increased agency costs not included in the budget for implementation, it will not become law.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John Bel Edwards in black ink.
John Bel Edwards
Governor

enclosure

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President