

June 29, 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: Veto of House Bill 256 of the 2021 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 256 of the 2021 Regular Session.

The bill will limit the ability of certain school boards to enter into exclusive contracts, thus limiting the ability of those Boards to manage their business in the manner they see fit. There is long-standing jurisprudence that a local school board has the right to enter into exclusive contracts with organizations in order to effectively and efficiently accomplish its objectives and purposes. This bill would most certainly violate Article 1, §23 of the Louisiana Constitution and unconstitutionally impair existing contracts between school boards and other parties. If enacted into law, House Bill 256 could lead to costly and time consuming litigation. This bill does not serve the best interest of the state, school boards, or students.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards
Governor

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President