

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

RE: Veto of Senate Bill 350 of the 2022 Regular Session

Dear President Cortez:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 350 of the Regular Session of 2022.

This bill is similar to House Bill 1074 from the 2022 Regular Session that I have signed into law. House Bill 1074 directs the Secretary of State to promulgate rules to ensure consistency in how deficient absentee ballots are handled by Parish Boards of Election Supervisors. However, Senate Bill 350, unlike House Bill 1074, improperly denies discretion to the Parish Boards of Election Supervisors in determining whether a ballot is valid. Instead, this bill mandates that an otherwise valid ballot be rejected if there is a technical deficiency such as a missing mother's maiden name on the affidavit flap of the absentee by mail ballot. This is simply too prescriptive and should not become law.

Sincerely,

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

John Bel Edwards
Governor

enclosure

cc: Honorable Clay Schexnayder
Speaker of the House of Representatives