

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



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June 29, 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

RE: Veto of House Bill 659 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 659 of the 2023 Regular Session.

House Bill 659 requires offenders twenty-one years of age or older residing in this state to register with local law enforcement after having been convicted of aggravated battery or aggravated second degree battery when the victim is a minor. Senate Bill 217 of the 2023 Regular Session, which creates a statewide database for individuals convicted of child abuse and neglect, has already been signed into law, and would extend registration of those individuals addressed in House Bill 659. Therefore, to eliminate confusion, Senate Bill 217 of the 2023 Regular Session should become the most recent expression of legislative intent.

For this reason, I have vetoed the bill.

Sincerely,

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

enclosure

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President

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JUN 30 2023
4:14 PM
House of Representatives
Clerk's Office