



Jeff Landry  
Governor

May 24, 2024

The Honorable Phillip R. DeVillier  
Speaker  
State Capitol  
900 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

The Honorable Michelle Fontenot  
Clerk of the House  
State Capitol  
900 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: House Bill Number 670 of the 2024 Regular Session by Representative Edmond Jordan

Dear Speaker DeVillier and Clerk Fontenot:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 670 of the 2024 Regular Session. House Bill 670 changes the current Healthy Food Retail Act to mandate that the Louisiana Department of Agriculture contract with qualified nonprofit organizations. House Bill 670 creates an unfunded mandate by eliminating the contingent language in R.S. 3:296 that provides the program is only “to the extent that funding is available.”

The Legislative Fiscal Office noted that this program was previously funded by federal grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. However, as noted by the Legislative Fiscal Office, this funding is no longer available as of September of 2023 and there is currently no appropriation by the Legislature for this program.

Retaining the current law still allows the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry to provide funding for this program should funding become available.

For these reasons, House Bill 670 will not become law.

Sincerely,

Jeff Landry  
Governor

Enclosure: Returned House Bill 670

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