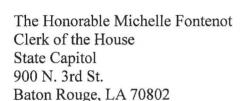


State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
P.O. BOX 94004
BATON ROUGE
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June 20, 2024

The Honorable Phillip R. DeVillier Speaker of the House Louisiana House of Representatives Box 94062 Baton Rouge, LA 70804





RE: House Bill 154 of the 2024 Regular Session by Representative Mandie Landry

Dear Speaker DeVillier and Clerk Fontenot:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 154 of the 2024 Regular Session.

This bill would ban the distribution and transmission of political material that "has been created or intentionally manipulated to create a realistic but false image, audio, or video with the intent to deceive a voter or injure the reputation of a known candidate in an election."

While I applaud the efforts to prevent false political attacks, I believe this bill creates serious First Amendment concerns as it relates to emerging technologies. The law is far from settled on this issue, and I believe more information is needed before such regulations are enshrined into law.

Instead, I believe HCR 66 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session is the appropriate vehicle to study this issue, as it provides that, "the legislature needs a great deal more information before it can begin to fashion policies that exploit the potential tools that artificial intelligence provides for governance while limiting its abuse by those who would do harm to our state and its citizens." I agree with HCR 66, and I note the author of HB 154 voted in favor of it.

Additionally, on the federal level in the United States Congress, Speaker Mike Johnson and Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries announced the establishment of a bipartisan Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to explore how Congress can ensure America continues to lead the world in AI innovation while considering guardrails that may be appropriate to safeguard the nation against current and emerging threats. https://www.speaker.gov/house-launches-bipartisan-

<u>task-force-on-artificial-intelligence/</u>. This is a further example of how much more study is done before enacting legislation on this subject.

For these reasons, House Bill 154 will not become law.

Sincerely,

Governor

Enclosure: Returned House Bill 154