

ADDENDUM TO
2016
OFFICIAL JOURNAL
of the proceedings of the
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
of the State of Louisiana

VETOED MESSAGES OF
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE BILLS

FORTIETH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION
OF THE LEGISLATURE
UNDER THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF 1974

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
June 6, 2016, thru June 23, 2016

The information in this addendum to the Official Journal of the Fortieth Extraordinary Session of the Legislature under the adoption of the Constitution of 1974 contains the veto messages that were received after the legislative session sine' die adjournment of June 23, 2016.

BY AUTHORITY

TAYLOR F. BARRAS
SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



ALFRED W. SPEER
CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Messages from the Governor

The following messages from the Governor were received on the dates indicated:

STATE OF LOUISIANA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

John Bel Edwards
Governor

July 1, 2016

Honorable Taylor F. Barras
Speaker of the House
Louisiana House of Representatives
Post Office Box 94062
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable John A. Alario, Jr.
Louisiana Senate President
Louisiana Senate
Post Office Box 94183
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Line item vetoes of House Bill 69

Dear Speaker Barras and President Alario:

Please allow this letter to inform you that I have signed House Bill No. 69 from the 2016 Second Extraordinary Session. However, as explained more fully below, I have also exercised my line item veto authority granted to me by La. Const. Art. 4, Section 5 (G)(1) to veto two items in this bill.

LINE ITEM VETO MESSAGE NO. 1:

Page 5, lines 2-4.

This appropriation takes \$250,000 from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and appropriates it to the Arc Caddo-Bossier for the Goldman School. Instead of funding the Goldman School with its own state general fund allocation, this appropriation takes away needed funding from the Louisiana Department of Health. In so doing, this will force a reduction in Early Steps, a vital program for children up to the age of three who have a medical condition likely to result in a developmental delay, or who have developmental delays.

LINE ITEM VETO MESSAGE NO. 2:

Page 12, lines 35-39 and Page 13, lines 1-6.

Section 3 of this bill is a conditional appropriation. It directs, in the form of "supplementary budget recommendations" only, that if excess revenues are realized, any funds "available for appropriation" are to be split evenly among TOPS, the Board of Regents for higher education funding, and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). While I have consistently supported fully funding TOPS, higher education, and LDH, and, in fact, presented a plan to the Legislature that provided for full funding, I am not willing to support a budget gimmick that relies upon unrealized funds to provide for contingent funding for agencies and departments. As such, I have vetoed this item.

From the beginning of my administration, I have made it clear that I will not continue the practice of presenting, or signing, dishonest budgets. Providing for a potential appropriation of money on the mere hope that new revenues will be recognized is a continuation of this previous practice. I presented a plan that would have fully funded TOPS and LDH (along with higher education, which was fully funded in HB 69), provided the Legislature raised sufficient revenues to fund these vital programs and departments. The Legislature chose not to follow this plan or present a plan of its own, and is instead relying on this language to make it appear that there could possibly be full funding in this fiscal year. The truth is that the Legislature did not fully fund TOPS or LDH, and there will be significant cuts as a result. I have pledged to be straightforward and honest in providing realistic budgetary expectations for our state government and our citizens. This means the budget must reflect the actual revenue.

Further, the revenue collections for the current fiscal year are less than expected, and we are likely to end this fiscal year in a deficit. I am bound by the Louisiana Constitution to provide a balanced budget that eliminates this deficit. Thus, if additional revenue is recognized, I am obligated to ensure that these funds are first allocated to the appropriations affected by a deficit before they can be committed elsewhere. This language in HB 69 seemingly prevents the use of any additional revenues for the elimination of the deficit, and thus it is not consistent with the requirements in La. Const. Art. 7, Section 10.

Lastly, I would like to inform you of the reasons why I have decided not to veto the provision in HB 69 which "front loads" the TOPS appropriation. I strongly believe it is bad fiscal policy to budget for less than a full year of expenses and provide for higher funding to TOPS in the fall semester than the spring semester. This scheme does not give students the ability to fully prepare for the spring semester and significantly complicates applications for financial aid. However, because any veto of this language in HB 69 would likely lead to litigation that would cause significant uncertainty and chaos mere weeks before the fall semester begins, I will allow this provision to become law.

However, I do think it is important to point out that in addition to the fact that this provision is bad policy, it is also bad arithmetic. The TOPS appropriation in HB 1 of the 2016 Regular Session, which did not provide for a "front loading" condition, provided for a total of \$141.5 million in funding. This appropriation thus provides for \$70.7 million from HB 1 for TOPS in the fall semester. The total TOPS appropriation in HB 69 was for \$67,887,110. Even by allocating the entire amount of HB 69 TOPS funding for the fall semester, this will only provide a total of \$138.6 million in TOPS funding for the fall semester. This is more than \$10 million short of the \$150 million currently projected as necessary to fully fund TOPS awards for the fall semester. This shortage does not account for increased tuition that will be exercised by some universities for the 2016-2017 academic year pursuant to the GRAD Act. Thus, while the language in HB 69 states that "the monies appropriated herein shall be used to fully fund the TOPS award for the fall semester," this is a mathematical impossibility. Students should thus be prepared for cuts to TOPS awards in the fall semester, with cuts that grow significantly worse in the spring semester.

Sincerely,

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
Governor

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Veto Messages - 2016 2nd Extraordinary Session

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

John Bel Edwards
Governor

July 11, 2016

Honorable Taylor F. Barras
Speaker of the House
Louisiana House of Representatives
Post Office Box 94062
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable John A. Alario, Jr.
Louisiana Senate President
Louisiana Senate
Post Office Box 94183
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Line item vetoes of House Bill 2 of the 2016 Second
Extraordinary Session

Dear Speaker Barras and President Alario:

Pursuant to La. Const. art. IV, Sec. 5(G), I have exercised my line item veto authority for certain items contained within House Bill 2 of the 2016 Second Extraordinary Session.

House Bill 2 contains \$1.37 billion in Priority 1 general obligation bond appropriations and an additional \$232 million in Priority 2 general obligation bond appropriations. Both Priority 1 and Priority 2 general obligation bond appropriations can be considered for cash lines of credit. However, the existing Capital Outlay Escrow Fund balance and currently projected general obligation bond sales cannot fund the appropriations in the bill. Thus, consistent with my promise to promote transparent budgetary practices, I have vetoed items from this bill totaling \$44,273,700 in appropriations. While being mindful of existing commitments and priorities, we must be prudent in allocating resources. Further, these vetoes are also consistent with my stated goal of reform of the Capital Outlay process so that it is realistic and honest. We simply cannot continue the practice of spending money that we do not have.

In light of the above, I have exercised my line item veto authority as follows:

- Veto No. 1:** Delete Page 26 of 148, Lines 1-4: Authorizes \$2,700,000 to Department of Transportation and Development (Public Improvements) for Lake Bistineau Erosion Remediation, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 2:** Delete Page 37 of 148, Lines 17-22: Authorizes \$2,200,000 to LSU Eunice for the replacement of Science Lab Fume Hoods, Planning and Construction.

- Veto No. 3:** Delete Page 42 of 148, Lines 42-46: Authorizes \$151,000 to Louisiana Tech University for Wylly Tower Replacement, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 4:** Delete Page 56 of 148, Lines 37-41: Authorizes \$2,130,000 to Caldwell Parish for Swim Lake Road Reconstruction, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 5:** Delete Page 58 of 148, Lines 23-28: Authorizes \$1,125,000 to Grant Parish for Natural Gas System Improvements.
- Veto No. 6:** Delete Page 59 of 148, Lines 1-5: Authorizes \$243,700 to Iberia Parish for Recreational Complex, Sports Including Baseball, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 7:** Delete Page 59 of 148, Lines 36-41: Authorizes \$1,990,000 to Jefferson Parish for Airline Drive (US 61) at 17th St. Canal Drainage 37 Crossing and Railroad Bridge Replacement, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 8:** Delete Page 70 of 148, Lines 2-5: Authorizes \$11,000,000 to St. Tammany Parish for the St. Tammany Parish Cultural Arts District.
- Veto No. 9:** Delete Page 71 of 148, Lines 42-46: Authorizes \$1,000,000 to Vermilion Parish for Road Improvements, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 10:** Delete Page 74 of 148, Lines 13-17: Authorizes \$75,000 to Abbeville for Sewer Collection System Upgrade, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 11:** Delete Page 75 of 148, Lines 36-40: Authorizes \$330,000 to Baton Rouge for Chaneyville Fire District #7 Reames Road Fire Station.
- Veto No. 12:** Delete Page 76 of 148, Lines 11-15: Authorizes \$325,000 to the Town of Benton for Road Improvements, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 13:** Delete Page 77 of 148, Lines 1-5: Authorizes \$685,000 to Bossier City for Highway 71 Street Lighting (Phase II), LA 511 to Parkway High School, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 14:** Delete Page 81 of 148, Lines 5-10: Authorizes \$180,000 to the City of Eunice for Levee Site Work at Eunice City Lake, and City Park Upgrades, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 15:** Delete Page 84 of 148, Lines 21-25: Authorizes \$675,000 to Haughton for Construction of Joe Delaney Memorial Park, Planning and Construction.

- Veto No. 16:** Delete Page 86 of 148, Lines 20-23: Authorizes \$524,000 to Jonesville for Drainage Improvements, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 17:** Delete Page 86 of 148, Lines 24-29: Authorizes \$500,000 to Kaplan for Kaplan Street Improvements, Reconstruction, Drainage, Improvements, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 18:** Delete Page 88 of 148, Lines 27-32: Authorizes \$150,000 to Leonville for Leonville Boat Launch Facility Improvements - Phase II, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 19:** Delete Page 90 of 148, Lines 16-20: Authorizes \$720,000 to Maurice for New Village Hall, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 20:** Delete Page 94 of 148, Lines 23-27: Authorizes \$450,000 to Orleans for George W. Carver Playground, Renovations, and Upgrades, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 21:** Delete Page 96 of 148, Lines 26-30: Authorizes \$135,000 to Pleasant Hill for Street Reconstruction and Overlay, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 22:** Delete Page 98 of 148, Lines 39-47: Authorizes \$14,990,000 to Scott for Apollo Road Extension (Rue Du Belier and Dulles Drive Intersection to Old Spanish Trail and Apollo Road Intersection), Planning, Construction and Land Acquisition.
- Veto No. 23:** Delete Page 105 of 148, Lines 35-39: Authorizes \$250,000 to Central to Expand, Repair, and Modify the City of Central Drainage System, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 24:** Delete Page 115 of 148, Lines 37-44: Authorizes \$1,645,000 to East Columbia Water District for East Columbia Water System Improvements, Planning and Construction.
- Veto No. 25:** Delete Page 120 of 148, Lines 37-44: Authorizes \$100,000 to North DeSoto Water System, Inc. for Expansion and Improvements to the Water System, Planning and Construction.

Enclosed is a copy of the signed version of House Bill 2. I have sent the original to the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
Governor

STATE OF LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

John Bel Edwards
Governor

July 12, 2016

Honorable Taylor F. Barras
Speaker of the House
Louisiana House of Representatives
Post Office Box 94062
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9062

Honorable John A. Alario, Jr.
Louisiana Senate President
Louisiana Senate
Post Office Box 94183
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: 2016 Second Extraordinary Session

Dear Speaker Barras and President Alario:

Please let this letter serve as formal notification that I have acted on all bills sent to me from the 2016 Second Extraordinary Session and have submitted them to the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
Governor

