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 260 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 260 of the Regular Session of 2023.

This bill is virtually identical to House Bill 359 of the 2022 Regular Session. The bill would require election officials to obtain permission of the House and Senate Governmental Affairs Committees before implementing federal directives or guidance “not explicitly required by state or federal law.” As I stated in my veto letter to House Bill 359 in 2022, this would potentially allow the legislature to prohibit an election official from adopting a federal best practice, inserting politics into the administration of elections and voter registration. It would also violate Article 2, Section 2 of the Louisiana Constitution, which provides that elections are conducted by local officials and the executive branch.

For the same reasons I vetoed House Bill 359 in 2022, I have vetoed House Bill 260 in 2023.

Sincerely,

John Bel Edwards
Governor

enclosure

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President