

Office of the Governor  
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR



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June 27, 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 658 of the 2023 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised I have vetoed House Bill 658 of the 2023 Regular Session. The bill seeks to add additional layers of state bureaucracy to federal pricing transparency laws for healthcare facilities and health insurance issuers by requiring the Louisiana Department of Health and Department of Insurance to monitor and enforce compliance with existing federal law.

There is no question that pricing transparency is an important component to ensuring affordable access to healthcare for all, which is why these requirements were included in the Affordable Care Act. While I appreciate the author's and co-authors' support for my first executive action as governor in expanding Medicaid, making affordable healthcare more accessible to Louisianan, the legislation as finally passed provides for alternate notifications, timelines, and corrective action plans required by the State that do not align with federal law. Due to the confusion and administrative burden this bill will create if enacted, in addition to increased agency costs not included in the budget for implementation, it will not become law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bel Edwards".

John Bel Edwards  
Governor

enclosure

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
Louisiana Senate President