

Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



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June 12, 2020

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 562 of the 2020 Regular Session

Dear Speaker Schexnayder:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 562 of the 2020 Regular Session.

House Bill 562 restricts the ability of executive branch agencies to transfer funds within their appropriated budgets. This unnecessary restriction would limit the ability of state agencies to properly respond to events that may develop over a budget year, such as natural disasters. Further, the author of the bill did not provide any explanation of why this bill was needed for the executive branch, but not for the other branches of government.

Sincerely,

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

John Bel Edwards
Governor

cc: Honorable Patrick Page Cortez
Louisiana Senate President

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 562

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 39:51(C) and 57.1(B) and to enact R.S. 39:57.1(C), relative to state expenditures; to provide for the initial expenditure allocation of personal services in the operating budget; to limit the transfer of personal services expenditures; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 39:51(C) and 57.1(B) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 39:57.1(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§51. General Appropriation Bill; other appropriation bills

* * *

C. The General Appropriation Bill and the bill appropriating funds for ancillary expenses of state government shall reflect specific appropriations for each agency and its programs and shall include the allocation of expenditures, itemized by category for each agency, as recommended for the existing operating budget and for the ensuing fiscal year in the supporting document. The amount included in the supporting document in the personal services expenditure category shall be the initial amount allocated in the bills for personal services for the ensuing fiscal year. The provisions of this Subsection regarding the allocation of expenditures shall not apply to any agency or program in Schedule 19, Higher Education, or Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Health Care Services Division.

* * *

§57.1. Allocation of expenditures

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1 B. Additionally, the commissioner may shall review and approve the initial
2 allocation of expenditures by expenditure category contained in the General
3 Appropriation Act and the act appropriating funds for ancillary expenses of state
4 government for each appropriation for a fiscal year.

5 C. Any changes in expenditures or any transfer of expenditures in or out of
6 the personal services expenditure category shall not exceed ten percent of the
7 agency's initial allocation to the personal services expenditure category for the fiscal
8 year.

9 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2020; if vetoed by the governor
10 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,
11 2020, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.


SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: MEB
10 June 2020

