



Jeff Landry  
Governor

State of Louisiana  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. BOX 94004  
BATON ROUGE  
70804-9004

June 20, 2024

The Honorable Phillip DeVillier  
Speaker of the House  
900 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

The Honorable Michelle Fontenot  
Clerk of the House  
State Capitol  
900 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RECEIVED  
JUN 20 2024  
RNLW  
3:02 pm  
House of Representatives  
Clerk's Office

RE: House Bill Number 391 of the 2024 Regular Session by Representative Delisha Boyd

Dear Speaker DeVillier and Clerk Fontenot:

Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 391 of the 2024 Regular Session. This bill seeks to enact a first-of-its-kind express lane for pardons, bypassing review and recommendation from the Board of Pardons and all normal procedures. As written, House Bill 391 explicitly violates the Louisiana Constitution, Article IV, Section 5(E)(1), which states that a favorable recommendation of the Board of Pardons is required before a Governor may even consider exercising his authority to pardon or commute a criminal conviction or sentence. Moreover, House Bill 391 is simply unnecessary as the Louisiana Constitution already provides for an automatic pardon for a first-time nonviolent offense.

Equally troubling, House Bill 391 appears to be an attempt to have Louisiana accept President Biden's invitation to the states to join his soft-on-crime, no-consequences-for-criminals agenda. On behalf of Louisiana and her great people, I decline such an invitation and will continue to fight to strengthen our criminal justice system and the rule of law in Louisiana.

For these reasons, House Bill 391 will not become law.

Sincerely,

Jeff Landry  
Governor

Enclosure: Returned House Bill 391

ENROLLED

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 391

BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYD, CHASSION, AND KNOX

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 15:572.2, relative to pardons; to provide that persons convicted of certain offenses of possession of marijuana shall be eligible for pardon by the governor without the requirement of completion of sentence and without recommendation to the Board of Pardons; and to provide for related matters.

=====**ORIGINATED**=====

===== IN THE =====

House of Representatives

RECEIVED

JUN 03 2024

By: MR  
Governor's Office

Time: 9:16 am



Clerk of the House of Representatives

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is fully pardoned for the offense and that he has all rights of citizenship and franchise, and the division shall transmit a copy of the certificate to the individual and to the clerk of court in and for the parish where the conviction occurred. This copy shall be filed in the record of the proceedings in which the conviction was obtained. However, once a pardon is granted under the provisions of this Section, the individual who received such pardon shall not be entitled to receive another pardon by the governor pursuant to this Section.

D. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any person who receives a pardon under the provisions of Article IV, Section 5(E)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana and this Section may be charged and punished as a second or multiple offender as provided in R.S. 15:529.1.

  
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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

**VETOED**

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA  
By: 

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: June 19, 2024