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# Jewish Federation

OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS

**BY EMAIL**

July 12, 2021

The Honorable John Bel Edwards  
Governor of Louisiana  
PO Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

**Re: Thank You for Standing with Louisiana's Transgender Youth (Veto of SB 156)**

Dear Governor Edwards,

We write on behalf of the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans Center for Jewish-Multicultural Affairs and JP Nola (Jewish Pride Nola), and the ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) to thank you for rising to defend Louisiana's transgender community with your veto of SB 156. Our organizations are committed to building a just and inclusive society that treats all of its members with fairness and dignity, and we deeply appreciate your veto in alignment with these values.

Our organizations take deep responsibility in advocating for equitable policies and standing against policy that threatens equity in our state. Any anti-trans attacks from our government are deeply troubling and must be challenged. Hate and discrimination have no place in our society, and certainly no place being enshrined in law. We were deeply troubled by the state legislature's attack on one of the most vulnerable communities - our transgender youth - through the passage of this reprehensible bill. Your veto of SB 156 sends a clear message that elected officials at the top level of state government will fight to ensure that Louisiana is a safe and equitable environment for transgender youth.

In addition, your veto of SB 156 will ensure positive economic growth in Louisiana. We have seen other states like North Carolina, Texas, and Georgia lose billions in revenue from lost conventions, canceled tournaments and tourism boycotts after passing anti-LGBTQ+ laws. As Louisiana continues to foster a positive environment for LGBTQ+ communities, the state will continue to host events that are sure to promote economic prosperity. Your continued support of LGBTQ+ communities does not only impact certain communities in our state, but every resident of Louisiana.

GOLDRING-WOLDENBERG JEWISH COMMUNITY CAMPUS, HARRY AND JEANETTE WEINBERG BUILDING  
3747 WEST ESPLANADE AVENUE | METAIRIE, LA 70002 | 504-780-5600 | FAX 504-780-5601 | www.jewishnola.com

MEMBER: Jewish Federations of North America LOCAL CONSTITUANT AGENCIES: Jewish Community Center, Jewish Community Day School, Jewish Family Service, Tulane Hillel AFFILIATE: Jewish Endowment Foundation of Louisiana

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# Jewish Federation

OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS

Transgender youth deserve our love and support, not cruel attacks because of who they are. We celebrate our diversity in Louisiana as our strength and believe that everyone, no matter their sexual orientation, gender identity or other immutable characteristic, should have the freedom to be who they are. Thank you for standing with our transgender youth.

Sincerely,

Bradley Bain  
Co-Chair, Goldring Center  
for Jewish-Multicultural  
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Marc N. Behar  
Co-Chair, JP Nola

Aaron Bloch  
Executive Director,  
Goldring Center for Jewish-  
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Ina Davis  
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