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June 20, 2025

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Louisiana Senate President  
Louisiana State Senate  
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Honorable Yolanda Dixon  
Secretary  
Louisiana State Senate  
Post Office Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

**RECEIVED**

JUN 27 2025

SENATE  
SECRETARY'S  
OFFICE

RE: Senate Bill 117 of the 2025 Regular Session by Senator Blake Miguez

Dear President Henry:

Please be advised that I have vetoed Senate Bill 117 of the 2025 Regular Session.

Senate Bill 117 aims to ban ultra-processed food in our schools. I am all for measures to Make Louisiana Healthy Again, especially when it comes to loading our students' plates with nutritious options. That is why I signed Senate Bill 14 into law during the 2025 Regular Session, sponsored by Senator McMath. Senate Bill 117, however, steps on the toes of SB 14—a priority bill for my administration that was passed with broad legislative support after a full-caliber collaborative effort from a wide coalition. SB 14 takes a more measured approach at boosting Louisiana's health without setting off conflicting standards.

While SB 117 shares some ground with SB 14, the latter goes further downrange to improve health. For instance, SB 117 leaves some harmful ingredients in the chamber—like azodicarbonamide, BHA, BHT, acesulfame potassium, and sucralose—still allowed in foods served to our students. Senate Bill 14 bans these outright, putting them out of commission.

Beyond that, SB 14 loads the health initiative with a broader scope. It requires certain physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice nurses to reload their knowledge with continuing education on nutrition and metabolic health. It also mandates that food manufacturers tag their products if they include any of 44 specified ingredients and requires food establishments to flag the presence of seed oils if they're cooking with them—making sure no one gets caught off guard.

I have been scratching my head over SB 117's presence ever since it was filed on April 3, 2025—weeks after SB 14 was already filed on March 18, 2025. On the House Floor on June 3, 2025, Representative Julie Emerson called out Representative Josh Carlson on how close the bills are. Carlson admitted they were “very similar” and basically the “same bill,” which makes SB 117 seem like a misfire.

It is also important to note that Senate Bill 14's prohibitions on serving certain ingredients to our students do not take effect until the 2028-2029 school year. Senate Bill 117 mandates schools to comply with its provisions in the 2027-2028 school year. We must consider any budgetary plans that schools may have already made for the 2027-2028 school year. Senate Bill 14 gives our schools the necessary time to prepare to implement these changes in consideration of their budgetary planning.

I remain locked in with the “Make America Healthy Again” initiative and urge the Legislature to keep aiming with my administration to find practical, effective, and scalable ways to promote health, wellness, and food quality across our state—especially in our schools.

In short, these two bills fire at some of the same targets, but SB 14 is a well-aimed tool that will Make Louisiana Healthy Again. Senate Bill 117 creates some confusion and inconsistency on the same subject matter.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 117 and return it to the Senate.

For Louisiana,



Jeff Landry  
Governor

Enclosure: Returned Senate Bill 117