

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
SHREVEPORT DIVISION

DO NO HARM

CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-cv-016

VERSUS

JUDGE EDWARDS

JOHN BEL EDWARDS

MAGISTRATE JUDGE HORNSBY

MEMORANDUM ORDER

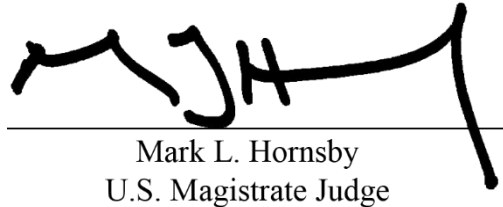
This case challenges the constitutionality of La. R.S. 37:1263(B), which Plaintiff argues requires the Governor to discriminate on the basis of race when making appointments to the Board of Medical Examiners. Before the court is Plaintiff's **Motion to Compel (Doc. 20)**. The motion concerns information and documents related to members of the board and applicants for seats on the board. The timeline for the requests is from 2018 (when the statute went into effect) to present. The Governor argues, among other things, that the information and documents are readily available to Plaintiff at the Louisiana State Archives. He also argues that he lacks control over discovery possessed by the board.

After considering all of the arguments of the parties, Plaintiff's motion is **granted in part** as follows. The court finds that the Governor has the legal right or practical ability to obtain information from the board and documents from the archive. The court also finds that it would be much easier for the Governor to obtain the information and documents than it would be for Plaintiff. The Governor is ordered to obtain the information and documents and supplement his responses to discovery no later than November 21, 2024,

unless otherwise agreed by the parties. Plaintiff is ordered to reimburse the Governor for the cost of copying the documents.

The Governor's primary arguments were not unreasonable; therefore, Plaintiff's requests for fees and expenses in connection with the motion to compel are **denied**.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Shreveport, Louisiana, this the 31st day of October, 2024.



Mark L. Hornsby
U.S. Magistrate Judge