

ACTS OF 2026 LEGISLATURE

ACTS 005-100

ACT No. 5

SENATE BILL NO. 319
BY SENATOR PRESSLY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:431(A)(1)(b)(iii) and (B)(1), 433(A)(3), 562(A), 571(A)(8), 573(E), and 1309(D), relative to election commissioners; to provide for course of instruction for commissioners; to provide for instructions to voters without picture identification; to provide for identification documentation requirements for voters; to provide for voting termination procedures; to provide for election result evidence; to provide for early voting voter verification identification; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:431(A)(1)(b)(iii) and (B)(1), 433(A)(3), 562(A), 571(A)(8), 573(E), and 1309(D) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§431. Commissioners; courses of instruction; certificates; reports; list of certified persons furnished by parish board of election supervisors

A.(1)(a)

* * *

(b) The clerk shall provide the following in accordance with minimum standards issued by the secretary of state to the persons who attend the course of instruction:

* * *

(iii) Instruction on a commissioner's duty to offer any voter who does not have picture identification ~~an affidavit to sign to that effect~~ as provided in R.S. 18:562(A)(2)(a) **the opportunity to provide identification in accordance with R.S. 18:562(A)(2)(c) and (d).**

* * *

B.(1) The clerk of court shall conduct a course of instruction for commissioners-in-charge, commissioners, and alternate commissioners who are selected to serve in each election. The course shall be held after the selection of these officials but not less than four days prior to each election. The course shall primarily cover the procedures to be used in the election for which the officials were selected. The clerk of court shall instruct the commissioners-in-charge, commissioners, and alternate commissioners that it is their duty to offer any voter who does not have picture identification as provided in R.S. 18:562 ~~an affidavit to sign to that effect~~ **(A)(2)(a) the opportunity to provide identification in accordance with R.S. 18:562(A)(2)(c) and (d).**

* * *

§433. Commissioners-in-charge; course of instruction; selection; commission; disqualification; replacement

A. Course of instruction. (1)

* * *

* * *

(3) During the week prior to the date scheduled for the course of instruction, the clerk shall notify each commissioner of the date, time, and place where he will conduct the course of instruction. The course of instruction shall include but shall not necessarily be restricted to instruction in the operating of voting machines, relevant laws and regulations concerning the conduct of elections, and matters pertaining to the powers and duties of commissioners-in-charge. The clerk shall instruct the commissioners-in-charge that it is their duty to ~~offer inform~~ any voter who does not have picture identification as provided in R.S. 18:562(A) ~~an affidavit to sign to that effect~~ **(2)(a) of the opportunity to provide identification in accordance with R.S. 18:562(A)(2)(c) and (d).**

* * *

§562. Prerequisites to voting

A. Identification of voters.

(1) A person who desires to vote in a primary or general election shall give his name and address to a commissioner, who shall announce the applicant's name and address to the persons at the polling place.

(2)(a) Each applicant shall identify himself, in the presence and view of the bystanders, and present to the commissioners one of the following:

(i) A Louisiana driver's license;

~~(ii) a Louisiana special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321; or other generally recognized picture identification card that contains the name and signature of the applicant.~~

(iii) A United States passport book.

(iv) A United States Certificate of Citizenship that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.

(v) A United States Certificate of Naturalization that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.

(vi) A tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.

~~(ii)(vii) A United States military identification card that contains the applicant's name and picture.~~

(b) If the applicant does not have one of the forms of identification provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, the applicant shall ~~complete and sign an affidavit, which is supplied by the secretary of state, to that effect before the commissioners, which affidavit shall include the applicant's date of birth and mother's maiden name. If the applicant is unable to read or write or is otherwise unable to complete the affidavit due to disability, the applicant may receive assistance in completing the affidavit and the commissioner shall make a notation on the affidavit. The applicant may receive the assistance of any person of his choice, including a commissioner, except a candidate, commissioner-in-charge, the applicant's employer or employer's agent, or the applicant's union agent. The commissioners shall place the affidavit in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and attach the envelope to the precinct register. However, an applicant who is allowed to vote without the picture identification required by Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph is subject to challenge as provided in R.S. 18:565~~ **present two forms of identification consisting of either two primary documents listed in Subparagraph (c) or one primary document listed in Subparagraph (c) and one secondary document listed in Subparagraph (d).**

(c) Primary documents.

(i) An original or certified domestic birth certificate.

(ii) Birth registration card or certificate issued by the state bureau of vital statistics.

(iii) Certificate of Birth Abroad issued by the United States Department of State.

(iv) Certificate of Naturalization.

(v) Certificate of Citizenship.

(vi) Social Security card.

(vii) United States passport card.

(viii) Tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that does not contain the applicant's picture or signature.

(ix) A United States veteran health identification card.

(d) Secondary documents.

(i) Voter registration notice.

(ii) Current utility bill, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(iii) Bank statement, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(iv) Government check or document, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(v) Paycheck or pay stub, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(e) If the applicant does not have one of the forms of identification provided in Subparagraphs (a) through (d) of this Paragraph, the applicant shall go to any office of the registrar of voters in the parish in which the applicant is registered to cast a conditional paper ballot no later than 8:00 p.m. on election day. No later than 4:30 pm on the second day following the election, the applicant shall also appear in person to present to the registrar of voters identification as provided in 18:562(A)(2)(a) through (d).

(f) All conditional paper ballots shall be presented to the parish board of election supervisors for counting or rejection prior to the compilation of returns pursuant to R.S. 18:574 at the office of the registrar of voters or at a public facility within the parish designated by the parish board of election supervisors. If the applicant has presented identification in accordance with this Subsection, the board shall count the conditional paper ballot. If the applicant failed to present identification in accordance with this Subsection, the board shall reject the conditional paper ballot.

(g) The secretary of state shall promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Section.

* * *

§571. Procedures for commissioners after termination of voting

A. At the termination of voting in a primary or general election, the commissioners shall announce that voting is terminated. The commissioners in the presence of the watchers shall immediately:

* * *

(8) Place one copy of the official election results reports, one copy of the machine certificates, one of the duplicate poll lists, all original executed challenges of voters, all precinct register corrections, ~~all voter identification affidavits~~, all voter assistance forms, any physicians' certificates, any copies of disability documentation, a copy of each completed notation of irregularities form, and any address confirmation notices in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters", seal it and attach it to the precinct register after the termination of voting, and place a new protective seal on the precinct register.

* * *

§573. Evidence of election results

* * *

E. Transmission and disposition of original challenges, ~~duplicate voters' affidavits~~, and address confirmation notices. (1) At the opening of the voting machines, the sealed precinct registers shall be immediately returned to the registrar of voters. Upon receipt of the sealed precinct registers, the

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

registrar shall remove any attached original record of challenges of voters made during the election, any precinct register correction affidavits, ~~any voter identification affidavits made pursuant to R.S. 18:562,~~ any address confirmation notices, any voter assistance forms, any certificates, any copies of disability documentation, and any completed voter registration applications.

(2) The registrar shall utilize the procedures set forth in Part V of Chapter 4 of this Code to determine the validity of the registration of each challenged voter who did not submit an address confirmation notice. In any instance where an address confirmation notice was received that stated an address different from the address on file in the registrar's office for a registrant, the registrar shall change the registrant's address to the address on the address confirmation notice if the change of address is in the parish; transfer the registrant's registration to another parish if the address on the address confirmation notice is in another parish; or cancel the registration if the address on the address confirmation notice is in another state. If an address confirmation notice was received that affirmed the address on file in the registrar's office, the registrar shall reinstate the registrant to the official list of voters if the registrant appears on the inactive list of voters. If the address confirmation notice was a result of a valid challenge, the registrar shall so inform the district attorney and shall transmit to him the address confirmation notice of that person.

~~(3) The registrar also shall proceed to determine if each voter submitting a voter identification affidavit made pursuant to R.S. 18:562 attesting that he is a qualified registered voter is in fact a registered voter qualified to vote in the election by comparing the information provided by the voter with the information on file in the registrar's office and by reasonably comparing the signature on the affidavit with any signature on file for the voter in the registrar's office. If the registrar determines that any person who has voted in the election by virtue of his submission of such an affidavit was not a registered voter qualified to vote in the election, the registrar shall so inform the elections compliance unit and shall transmit to it the affidavit of that person.~~

(4) The registrar shall scan the address confirmation notice, voter ~~identification affidavit,~~ voter assistance form, or voter registration application and add it to the voter's record in the state voter registration computer system after processing.

* * *

§1309. Early voting; verification

* * *

D.(1)(a) Before any voter is allowed to vote during early voting, the registrar or his deputy shall establish the voter's identity by requiring him to submit one of the following:

(i) A Louisiana driver's license;.

~~(ii) a A Louisiana special identification card issued pursuant to R.S. 40:1321; or other generally recognized picture identification card that contains the name and signature of the voter;.~~

~~(ii)(iii) A United States military identification card that contains the voter's name and picture;.~~

~~(iv) A United States passport book.~~

~~(v) A United States Certificate of Citizenship that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.~~

~~(vi) A United States Certificate of Naturalization that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.~~

~~(vii) A tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that contains the applicant's name, picture, and signature.~~

(b) If the voter does not have one of the forms of identification provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, the voter shall ~~complete and sign, in the presence of the registrar or his deputy, a voter identification affidavit to that effect provided by the secretary of state, which affidavit shall include the voter's date of birth and mother's maiden name. If the voter is unable to read or write or is otherwise unable to complete the affidavit due to disability, the voter may receive assistance in completing the affidavit, and the registrar or his deputy shall make a notation on the affidavit. The voter may receive the assistance of any person of his choice, including the registrar or his deputy, except a candidate, the voter's employer or employer's agent, or the voter's union agent. The registrar or his deputy shall retain the affidavit in the office of the registrar of voters.~~ **present two forms of identification consisting of either two primary documents listed in Subparagraph (c) or one primary document listed in Subparagraph (c) and one secondary document listed in Subparagraph (d).**

(c) Primary documents.

(i) An original or certified domestic birth certificate.

(ii) Birth registration card or certificate issued by the state bureau of vital statistics.

(iii) Certificate of Birth Abroad issued by the United States Department of State.

(iv) Certificate of Naturalization.

(v) Certificate of Citizenship.

(vi) Social Security card.

(vii) United States passport card.

(viii) Tribal identification card issued by a tribe recognized by the state of Louisiana or the federal government that does not contain the applicant's picture or signature.

(ix) A United States veteran health identification card.

(d) Secondary documents.

(i) Voter registration notice.

(ii) Current utility bill, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(iii) Bank statement, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(iv) Government check or document, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(v) Paycheck or pay stub, not more than twelve months old, containing the name and address of the voter.

(e) If the voter does not have one of the forms of identification provided in Subparagraph (D)(1)(a)(i) through (d) of this Paragraph, the voter shall cast a conditional paper ballot. No later than 4:30 pm on the second day following the election, the voter shall also appear in person to present to the registrar of voters a form of identification as provided in 18:562(A)(2)(a) through (d).

(f) All conditional paper ballots shall be presented to the parish board of election supervisors for counting or rejection prior to the compilation of returns pursuant to R.S. 18:574 at the office of the registrar of voters or at a public facility within the parish designated by the parish board of election supervisors. The registrar of voters shall present the conditional paper ballot to the parish board of election supervisors for counting on the third day after the election. If the voter has presented identification in accordance with this Subsection, the board shall count the conditional paper ballot. If the voter failed to present identification in accordance with this Subsection, the board shall reject the conditional paper ballot.

(g) The secretary of state shall adopt guidance, pursuant to R.S. 18:18, necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Section.

~~(e)(h)~~ If satisfied that the voter has identified himself as the voter registered in the state voter registration computer system and that he is qualified to vote, the registrar or his deputy shall initial the early voting register kept by the registrar opposite the voter's signature or mark. The voter then shall be allowed to vote.

~~(d) A voter who votes without the picture identification required by Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph is subject to challenge as provided in R.S. 18:1315.~~

(2) If the voter's name is found in the state voter registration computer system on the inactive list of voters, the voter shall be required to complete an address confirmation card to determine his eligibility to vote.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2027.

Approved by the Governor, June 2, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 6

HOUSE BILL NO. 691

BY REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU AND SENATORS CATHEY, HODGES,
KLEINPETER, MIGUEZ, MORRIS, TALBOT, AND WOMACK

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 18:49.2, relative to the verification of citizenship of registered voters; to provide for submission of state voter information to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements program; to provide for investigation by the division of election integrity into potential noncitizens who are registered to vote; to provide for submitting investigatory findings to the appropriate prosecutorial agency; to provide for the challenge to registration by the registrar of voters; to provide for the duties of the secretary of state; to provide for reporting requirements; to provide relative to appropriations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:49.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§49.2. Systematic alien verification for entitlements program review

A. For purposes of this Section, "SAVE" means the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements program administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

B.(1) The secretary shall annually submit to SAVE a check against every registrant in the state voter registration computer system for which the requisite state data exists. The data shall be submitted prior to one hundred eighty days before a regularly scheduled federal general election.

(2) The secretary shall submit the name of every potential noncitizen registrant to the division of election integrity for investigation.

C. Upon receipt of the name of a potential noncitizen registrant from the secretary, the division of election integrity shall conduct an investigation. If the division determines that there may be a noncitizen registrant in the state voter registration computer system, the division shall submit the findings of the investigation to the appropriate prosecutorial agency for further investigation or prosecution.

D. The secretary shall transmit any noncitizen matches verified by the division of election integrity to the appropriate parish registrar of voters to challenge the individual's registration in accordance with R.S. 18:193.

E. The secretary shall include the following information in the annual report to the legislature provided for in R.S. 18:18(A)(4):

(1) The number of records checked against SAVE data during the prior year.

(2) The number of registrants challenged as potential noncitizens.

(3) The number of registrants whose voter registration was cancelled as a noncitizen.

(4) Any recommendations for statutory or administrative improvements to ensure voter registration list accuracy.

F. All SAVE data and related voter information shall be processed in a secure environment consistent with state and federal data protection standards and in accordance with R.S. 18:154 and the Public Records Law.

G. This Section shall apply only if SAVE remains available without cost to the state or subject to appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 7

**HOUSE BILL NO. 842
BY REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU
AN ACT**

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:2(9), 53(B)(2)(b), 55(D), 59(F), 62, 108(A), 110(B)(3), 154(C)(1)(h) and (D)(1) and (3) and (F)(8), 192(B)(1)(a), 193(A), 196(B) and (C)(2) (a), 197, 401.1(H), 402(A)(1), 433(B)(1), 465(B) and (D), 469(A), 491(B), 493, 495(B), 501(C), 532(F), 532.1(C)(1) and (4), 551(B)(2)(introductory paragraph), 562(B)(2), 564(B)(5)(b), 565(B) and (C), 571(A)(8), 573(E), 574(A)(2) and (3), 602(E)(2) (d), 604(B)(2)(c), 621(B), 1254(C), 1259(B)(2)(introductory paragraph), 1300.2(C)(1), 1300.3(A)(1)(b), 1303(K) and (L), 1309(D)(2), (K), and (N)(5), 1309.3(B)(4)(b), 1313(C)(1) and (H)(3) and (5), 1313.1(C)(2) and (I)(2), 1314(B)(2) and (C)(2)(a) and (3), 1315(A)(1) and (2)(introductory paragraph), (B), and (D)(2), 1317, 1333(B) and (G)(1) and (7), 1367.2(F), 1367.11(A), 1371(A)(1) and (2)(introductory paragraph), 1401(G), 1402(B)(1)(a), 1405, 1413, and 1922.2(B)(2) and to enact R.S. 18:106.2, 107(H), 110(B)(1)(c), 192(C), 465(E)(3), 1310(A)(3), 1316(D), 1401(H), and 1922.2(B)(3), relative to the Louisiana Election Code; to make revisions to the Louisiana Election Code; to provide for duties of the secretary of state and registrars of voters; to provide for the raising of allegations against a registrar of voters; to provide for the payment of the parish portion of the salary of a registrar of voters, chief deputy registrar, and confidential assistant; to provide for political activities of unclassified registrars, deputy registrars, and other employees; to provide for the cancellation of prior voter registration; to provide for change of registration address; to provide for the cancellation of registration; to provide for the registration of unaffiliated registrants; to provide for the registration information of a person who is seventeen years of age; to provide for voters incapable of making a mark; to provide for the confidentiality of registration information of law enforcement officers; to provide for the annual canvass in certain years; to provide for use of an address confirmation form; to provide for the calculation of dates and computation of time; to provide for meetings of a parish board of election supervisors; to provide for the information required on a nominating petition; to provide for the certification of signatures on a nominating petition; to provide for procedures related to changing precincts and boundaries; to provide for the completion of voter assistance forms; to provide for the statement of election returns; to provide for notification of a special election to fill a vacancy; to provide for vacancies in certain party primary offices; to provide for the contents of a nominating petition for presidential elector; to provide for the arrangement of the ballot; to provide for certifying employment for purposes of early voting; to provide for early voting commissioner qualifications; to provide for filing the list of early voting watchers; to provide for casting a vote on an absentee by mail ballot; to provide for the timing to challenge a person applying to vote during early voting; to provide for grounds to challenge an absentee by mail ballot; to authorize the secretary of state to promulgate rules related to distinguishing marks; to provide for the duration of the nursing home early voting program; to provide for procurement methods for the delivery of voting machines and equipment; to provide relative to legal remedies related to the procurement of voting machines; to provide for election contests; to provide for objections to candidacy; to provide for a cause of action, the proper parties, and the preemptive period for objecting to the placement of a constitutional amendment on a ballot; to provide for the time for the commencement of objections to candidacy and election contests; to provide for the designation of statewide elections for the purpose of the consideration of constitutional amendments; to provide relative to the secretary of state's duties related to recall petitions; to provide for the designation of party primary offices; to provide for the election of candidates for representative in the United States Congress in 2026; to provide that votes cast for candidates for representative in the United States Congress in the May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary election be void and not counted; to provide that cancelled votes are not subject to the Public Records Law; to provide for the conduct of the 2026 fall elections; to provide for qualifying for the 2026 fall open primary elections; to provide for nominating petitions for candidates for representative in the United States Congress for the 2026 fall open primary elections; to correct terminology; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:53(B)(2)(b), 55(D), 59(F), 62, 108(A), 110(B)(3), 154(D)(1) and (3), 192(B)(1)(a), 193(A), 196(B) and (C)(2)(a), 197, 401.1(H), 402(A)(1), 433(B)(1), 465(B) and (D), 469(A), 491(B), 493, 495(B), 501(C), 532(F), 532.1(C)(1) and (4), 551(B)(2)(introductory paragraph), 562(B)(2), 564(B)(5)(b), 565(B) and (C), 571(A)

(8), 573(E), 574(A)(2) and (3), 602(E)(2)(d), 604(B)(2)(c), 621(B), 1254(C), 1259(B)(2) (introductory paragraph), 1300.2(C)(1), 1300.3(A)(1)(b), 1303(K) and (L), 1309(D)(2), (K), and (N)(5), 1309.3(B)(4)(b), 1313(C)(1) and (H)(3) and (5), 1313.1(C)(2) and (I)(2), 1314(B)(2) and (C)(2)(a) and (3), 1315(A)(1) and (2)(introductory paragraph), (B), and (D)(2), 1317, 1333(B) and (G)(1) and (7), 1367.2(F), 1367.11(A), 1371(A)(1) and (2)(introductory paragraph), 1401(G), 1402(B)(1)(a), 1405, 1413, and 1922.2(B)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:106.2, 110(B)(1)(c), 192(C), 465(E)(3), 1310(A)(3), 1316(D), 1401(H), and 1922.2(B)(3) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§53. Removal from office; may not be own immediate successor

* * *

B.

* * *

(2)

* * *

(b) If the commissioner of elections raises allegations that the parish registrar has engaged in any conduct set forth in Paragraphs (A)(1) through (7) of this Section, the board shall schedule a hearing on the allegations brought by the commissioner of elections within thirty days of the receipt of the ~~accusations~~ allegations. If the commissioner of elections serves as a regular member of the board, he shall not serve for the purposes of such hearings, and the secretary of state shall designate a member of the Registrars of Voters Association to serve in the commissioner's place and shall notify the board in writing of any such designation as provided in R.S. 18:23.

* * *

§55. Compensation of registrar of voters; amount and manner of payment; reduction during tenure prohibited; prohibited increase

* * *

D. The state portion of each salary shall be paid biweekly by the state through the secretary of state, and the parish portion of each salary shall be paid ~~biweekly, semimonthly, or~~ monthly by the parish governing authority on the warrant of the respective registrars. The funds for the parish portion of the salary shall be annually appropriated by the parish governing authority and the funds for the state portion of the salary shall be annually appropriated to the secretary of state.

* * *

§59. Deputies, confidential assistants, and other permanent office employees; temporary employees; appointment and compensation; prohibited increase in compensation

* * *

F. The state portion of the salary of each chief deputy registrar of voters and confidential assistant shall be paid biweekly by the state through the secretary of state, and the parish portion of the salary shall be paid ~~biweekly, semimonthly, or~~ monthly by the parish governing authority on the warrant of each chief deputy and confidential assistant. The funds for the parish portion of the salary shall be annually appropriated by the parish governing authority and the funds for the state portion of the salary shall be annually appropriated by the legislature to the secretary of state.

* * *

§62. Political activities prohibited

A. No registrar of voters, ~~and~~ or deputy registrar, or other employee of a registrar who is in the unclassified ~~state~~ civil service shall participate or engage in: political activity, including his own or any other candidacy for election to public office; membership on any national, state, or local committee of a political party or faction; making or soliciting contributions for any political party, faction, or candidate; ~~or~~ taking active part in the management of the affairs of a political party, faction, candidate, or any political campaign, except to exercise his right as a citizen to express his opinion privately and to cast his vote as he desires. As used in this Section, the term "political activity" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Article X, Section 9(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

B. All deputy registrars and other employees of a registrar who are in the classified ~~state~~ civil service shall be subject to the constitution and laws, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, affecting political activities by persons in the classified ~~state~~ civil service.

* * *

§106.2. Voter incapable of signing his name or making a mark

A. If a registered voter, subsequent to his registration, is no longer capable of signing his name or making a mark due to a physical disability, he shall file with the registrar of voters an alternative signature attestation to authorize another person to sign documents required by this Title on his behalf, along with a letter signed by a physician stating that the voter is unable to provide his signature or mark due to a physical disability and that the voter is capable of providing consent for another person to sign on his behalf.

B. The individual assisting a voter who filed the attestation provided for in Subsection A of this Section shall complete and sign a form, at the voter's direction and in the presence of the voter and at least one witness, indicating that the voter is unable to sign his name or make a mark due to a physical disability, that the voter has verbally or otherwise attested that the individual was given the authority to sign on the voter's behalf, and that all information supplied on the form is true and correct under penalty of perjury. The form shall also contain the individual's printed name, signature, and residential address, as well as the printed name and signature of the witness.C. The individual authorized to assist the voter shall be an elector of the state and shall not be a candidate, the voter's employer or employer's agent, or the voter's union agent.

D. When signing a document required by this Title on the voter's behalf, the individual authorized to assist the voter shall also sign and print his own name and residential address on the document.

E. If a registered voter who is no longer capable of signing his name or making a mark due to a physical disability appears in person to vote on election day or during early voting, he shall verbally or otherwise convey his consent for the commissioner or deputy registrar to sign the precinct register, early voting register, and any other forms required by this Title, and the commissioner or deputy registrar shall sign on behalf of the voter in the presence of at least one witness.

§108. Prior registration; surrender of notice of registration before new registration; change of place of registration

A. If the registrant's application indicates that the applicant previously registered as a voter in any other parish, ~~and if the previous notice of registration is available, then before making a new registration the registrar shall require the applicant to surrender his previous notice for cancellation.~~ The registrar shall promptly notify the registrar of the parish in which the applicant has registered previously, through the statewide voter registration system, of the present registration. The other registrar shall verify the cancellation of cancel the voter's previous registration in the other parish; however, the cancellation shall not be made as long as the registrant has the right to vote in the parish of his former residence as provided in R.S. 18:110(C).

§110. Removal from precinct; removal from parish

B.(1) A change of registration based upon a change of residence within a parish received after the closing of registration for a primary election shall become effective the day after the general election or special general election when a special primary election is held in conjunction with a general election except as follows:

(c) A change of registration based upon a change of residence within a parish received after the closing of registration for a closed party primary election shall become effective the day after the second party primary election.

(3) However, in a regularly scheduled general election where the only candidate's election appearing on any ballot in the parish is a special primary election, then in such instance, ~~the a change made prior to the close of registration for the general election~~ shall become effective prior to the special primary election. In a regularly scheduled or special general election, where the change of registration was made prior to the close of registration for the general election and does not change any issues or candidate offices upon which the voter was entitled to vote prior to the change, the change shall become effective prior to the regularly scheduled or special general election.

§154. Records open to inspection; copying; exceptions

D.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, the registrar, the clerk of court, and the Department of State shall not disclose the name and address of a law enforcement officer if the registrar has received certification from the law enforcement agency employing the officer that the officer is engaging in hazardous activities ~~to the extent that it is making it necessary for his name and address to be kept confidential.~~ The registrar shall indicate such certification in the state voter registration computer system upon receipt of the certification.

(3)(a) Any agency employing a law enforcement officer availing himself of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall ~~also~~ issue a decertification notice to the registrar of voters when the officer is no longer engaging in hazardous activities ~~to the extent that it is making it necessary for his name and address to be kept confidential.~~

(b) Any time after certification by the employing agency, the law enforcement officer may submit written notice to the registrar of voters that it is no longer necessary for his name and address to be kept confidential.

(c) Upon receipt of a notice provided for in this Paragraph, the registrar shall remove the indication of certification for the affected law enforcement officer from the state voter registration computer system.

§192. Annual canvass; costs

B.(1) No later than June thirtieth, the Department of State shall conduct an annual canvass as provided in this Subsection. Using information available in the state voter registration computer system, the secretary of state shall identify registrants who meet all of the following criteria:

(a) The registrant's name did not appear with a corrected address provided ~~by the United States Postal Service or its licensee~~ pursuant to Subsection A of this Section.

C. The Department of State is not required to conduct a canvass as provided for in Subsection A or B of this Section in a calendar year when there is less than sixty days between a regularly scheduled or special election date and the opening of qualifying for a regularly scheduled or special primary election.

§193. Challenge and cancellation of registration; notice; procedures

A. When the registrar has reason to believe that a registrant no longer is qualified to be registered, or that a registrant has changed his residence,

the registrar shall immediately notify the person by sending the address confirmation notice to the registrant and place the voter on the inactive list of voters. However, a person shall not be placed on the inactive list of voters if there is address information available to the registrar ~~from the United States Postal Service or its licensee~~ which indicates the voter has moved to another address within the parish.

§196. Inactive list of voters; procedure for voting

B. A registrant whose name is on the inactive list of voters may vote:
(1) If the registrant has not changed residence, at the polling place of the registrant's last address upon affirming in writing by completing an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ affirming that the registrant still resides at the address on file at the office of the registrar of voters.

(2) If the registrant has moved to an address within the parish in the same precinct, at the polling place of the registrant's last address on file at the office of the registrar of voters upon affirming in writing that the registrant resides in the precinct by completing an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ affirming the new address within the precinct.

(3) If the registrant has moved to an address within the parish in a different precinct, at the polling place of the registrant's last address on file at the office of the registrar of voters for that election only upon affirming in writing that the registrant still resides in the parish by completing an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ affirming the new address within the parish.

(4) If the registrant has moved to an address outside of the parish, at the polling place of the registrant's last address on file at the office of the registrar of voters for that election only upon affirming in writing that the registrant has moved within the last three months and no longer resides in the parish by completing an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ affirming the new address outside of the parish and that the length of time since the move has not exceeded three months. If the registrant does not affirm that he has moved within the last three months, the registrant shall not be permitted to vote.

C.

(2)(a) If a registrant whose name is on the inactive list of voters applies to vote absentee by mail or votes absentee by mail or during early voting, the registrar shall transfer the registrant's name to the official list of voters and make any necessary corrections in the registrant's registration records if the information on the address confirmation ~~notice form~~, as required by R.S. 18:1309, or the residence address provided in an application to vote by mail so indicates. The registrar shall change the registrant's registration address to the residence address provided on the address confirmation form or application to vote by mail.

§197. Registration; cancellation

No registrar of voters shall cancel the registration of any voter in his parish between any open primary election and the subsequent general election occurring in that parish as a result of any of the processes authorized by this Part, except in the case of a person whose registration is cancelled pursuant to R.S. 18:193(G) or who has been fraudulently placed upon the registration records or in the case of a person whose registration is canceled pursuant to the annual canvass conducted by the registrar.

§401.1. Election emergency; purpose; elections emergency contingency plan

H. For purposes of this Section, a vacancy in a party primary office that may not be filled by appointment, designation, or in accordance with the timeframes required by law shall constitute an emergency. If the vacancy may not be filled in a timely manner in accordance with the election dates provided for in R.S. 18:402, the governor may proclaim a state of emergency for purposes of calling a special election to fill the vacancy. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 18:401.3, following the issuance of the emergency proclamation, the authority required by law to call a special election to fill the vacancy in office shall, in consultation with and with the certification of the secretary of state, issue a proclamation ordering a special election. The proclamation ordering the special election shall include the dates for qualifying, early voting, ~~the at least one party primary election, and the general election, and at least one party primary election~~ and make all provisions necessary to conduct an election in a timely manner notwithstanding the dates, timing, and delays otherwise provided by this Code.

§402. Dates of primary and general elections; prohibited election days

A. Prohibited election days. (1) No election of any kind shall be held in this state on any of the days of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah, the first two days and the last two days of Passover, Shavuot, Tish'a B'Av, the two days preceding Labor Day, the three days preceding Easter, or the three days following Thanksgiving Day. If the date of any fall election falls on any of the above-named days, the election shall be held on the same ~~weekday~~ weekend day of the preceding week. If the date of any spring election falls on any of the above-named days, the election shall be held on the same day of the following week.

§433. Commissioners-in-charge; course of instruction; selection; commission; disqualification; replacement

B. Selection. (1)(a) The parish board of election supervisors shall meet ~~at 10:00 a.m. by on or before~~ the second Friday in January of each year to select a commissioner-in-charge to serve at each precinct in the parish. The meeting shall be open to the public. The board shall have previously posted a notice on the front door of the courthouse stating the location within the courthouse where the meeting is to be held. The selection of commissioners-in-charge shall be made from the certified list furnished by the clerk as required by Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section and in the manner provided for in this Subsection.

(b) If the course of instruction for commissioners-in-charge is delayed due to a gubernatorially declared state of emergency as provided by Paragraph (A) (1) of this Section, the parish board of election supervisors shall meet ~~at 10:00 a.m.~~ on or before the fifth day after completion of the course of instruction.

§465. Nominating petitions

B. Method of nominating candidates. A person may ~~only~~ be nominated as a candidate in a primary election only by persons who are registered to vote on the office he seeks who sign a nominating petition for him no more than one hundred twenty days before the qualifying period opens for candidates in the primary election. In addition to his signature, each voter who signs a nominating petition shall provide the information required by R.S. 18:3 date his signature and shall provide the ward and precinct in which he is registered to vote, his residence address, including the municipal number, the apartment number, if any, the rural route and box number, or any other physical description that will identify his actual place of residence. Once a voter has signed a nominating petition, he may not withdraw the nomination. The secretary of state shall prepare forms which may be used by any person who seeks nomination as a candidate by nominating petition. The secretary of state shall furnish copies of the forms to each clerk of court, and the forms shall be available, upon request, at the office of the secretary of state or at the office of the clerk of court. Nothing in this Subsection shall be construed to require nominating petitions to be filed only on forms prepared by the secretary of state.

D. Form. In addition to the requirements of R.S. 18:3, each Each sheet of the nominating petition shall set forth the candidate's name, the address of his domicile, the office for which the signers nominate him, the political party with which he is affiliated, if any, and the date of the primary election for which he seeks to qualify. ~~The name of each voter who signed the nominating petition shall be typed or legibly written on the petition, and each signature on the nominating petition shall be dated and witnessed by the candidate or the person who obtained the signature on his behalf. The candidate and all persons who obtained signatures on his behalf shall certify on the nominating petition that to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief all of the signatures on the nominating petition are genuine and all of the statements contained in the nominating petition are true and correct.~~

E. Certification.

(3) The registrar of voters for each parish may request and accept the assistance of employees of the Department of State and registrars and deputy registrars of voters from other parishes to complete the certification of the nominating petition.

§469. Reopening of qualifying period; effect

A. When a person who qualified as a candidate and has opposition in a primary election for a public office dies after the close of the qualifying period and before the time for closing the polls on the day of the primary election, the qualifying period for candidates in the primary election for that office shall reopen for candidates on the day after the secretary of state receives actual notice of the death and shall close at 4:30 p.m. on the third day after notice of the death or, if that day is a legal holiday, at 4:30 p.m. on the next day which is not a legal holiday. The name of the deceased candidate shall not be printed on the primary election ballot. If the primary election ballot was printed with the deceased candidate's name on it, any votes received by the deceased candidate shall be void and shall not be counted for any purpose whatsoever.

§491. Standing to object to candidacy

B. A registered voter may present evidence that a candidate has illegally qualified for elective office. The evidence may be presented to the respective parish district attorney, who may determine whether or not the evidence presented establishes grounds for objecting to such candidacy and if the district attorney makes such a determination he may file an action objecting to candidacy within the time limitation provided in R.S. ~~18:493~~ 18:1405(A).

~~§493. Time for objecting to candidacy~~ Subpoena and testimony; Department of Revenue

~~A. An action objecting to candidacy shall be commenced in a court of competent jurisdiction within seven days after the close of qualifications for candidates in the primary election. However, if the time interval ends on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, then noon of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the end of the time interval. After the expiration of the time period set forth in this Section, no action shall be commenced objecting to candidacy based on the grounds~~

~~for objections to candidacy contained in R.S. 18:492.~~

~~B.(1) Neither the secretary of the Department of Revenue nor any employee engaged in the administration or charged with the custody of any records or files of the Department of Revenue shall be subject to subpoena or otherwise required to appear in court for any matter filed pursuant to this Section.~~

~~(2) B.~~ In lieu of live testimony, a properly executed affidavit issued by the secretary of the Department of Revenue or his designee shall serve as sufficient confirmation as to the accuracy of the records and files of the secretary of the Department of Revenue for such purposes.

§495. Initiation of action by district attorney; attorney general; court costs and attorney fees

B. The district attorney shall have standing to bring such an action pursuant to this Subpart. In addition, if requested in accordance with Subsection A of this Section, the attorney general shall have standing to bring such an action pursuant to this Subpart. The time limitation to commence an action objecting to candidacy prescribed by R.S. ~~18:493~~ 18:1405(A) shall apply to such actions brought by the district attorney or the attorney general.

§501. Procedure for withdrawal

C. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsections A and B of this Section, if the number of candidates remaining in a primary election, second party primary election, or general election for a public office is one more than the number of persons to be elected to the office, the secretary of state shall accept a notice of withdrawal that is filed prior to 4:30 p.m. on the second business day prior to the first day of early voting. The candidate or candidates remaining after the withdrawal shall be declared elected by the people.

§532. Establishment of precincts

F. Prior to the adoption of an ordinance to establish the boundaries of precincts pursuant to this Section, the parish governing authority shall submit the proposed precincts and boundaries to the clerk of court and registrar of voters for their review to confirm in writing the ability to conduct an election utilizing the proposed boundaries. The parish governing authority shall submit to the secretary of state in accordance with timetables in this Section, the written confirmation received by the parish governing authority.

§532.1. Changing boundaries

C.(1) The parish governing authority shall comply with the provisions of R.S. 18:532(A), (B), (C), ~~and (E), and (F)~~ when changing any precinct boundary.

(4) In addition to the requirements of Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, when the proposed precinct change involves dividing a precinct, prior to the adoption of the ordinance, the parish governing authority shall submit proposed changes to the clerk of court and registrar of voters to confirm in writing the ability to conduct an election utilizing the proposed boundaries. The parish governing authority shall submit to the secretary of state in accordance with timetables in this Section, the written confirmation received by the parish governing authority.

§551. Ballots

B. Titles of offices.

~~(2) Below any party primary offices, the~~ Except as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, titles of the offices to be voted on in a primary or general election shall be listed on the ballot in the following order:

§562. Prerequisites to voting

B. Review of precinct register. The commissioners shall then determine:

(2) If the applicant's name is found in the precinct register on the inactive list of voters and the applicant has not voted absentee by mail or during early voting, the applicant may vote after complying with provisions of R.S. 18:196(B). After such compliance, one of the commissioners shall announce the applicant's name again and shall preserve the address confirmation ~~notice~~ form received from the voter by placing the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and attaching the envelope to the precinct register.

§564. Assistance in voting on election day

B. Persons prohibited from assisting voters.

(5)

(b) ~~The voter, along with the person assisting the voter, shall complete a voter assistance form and provide the name, address, and relationship to the voter of the person, including a commissioner, assisting the voter and attest whether the person, other than a commissioner, assisting the voter was paid to provide assistance. If the voter is not marked for assistance in voting in the precinct register, the voters shall attest on the voter assistance form that the~~

voter has a physical disability or is unable to read and requires assistance in voting.

* * *
* * *

§565. Challenge of voters

B. Disposition of record of challenge and address confirmation ~~notice form~~. The original record of the challenge, signed by the challenger, and the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ shall be placed in the envelope marked “Registrar of Voters”. A duplicate record of the challenge shall be placed in the clear plastic zipper bag and returned to the clerk of court on election night. A duplicate record of the challenge shall be given to the voter being challenged.

C. Disposition of the challenge. The commissioners present shall determine the validity of the challenge. If they determine by majority vote that the challenge is valid, the applicant shall not be permitted to vote. However, if the valid challenge has determined that the applicant has moved within the parish or has moved outside of the parish within the last three months, the voter shall be allowed to vote upon completing an address confirmation ~~notice form~~. If a majority of the commissioners determine that the challenge is invalid, the applicant shall be permitted to vote.

* * *

§571. Procedures for commissioners after termination of voting

A. At the termination of voting in a primary or general election, the commissioners shall announce that voting is terminated. The commissioners in the presence of the watchers shall immediately:

* * *

(8) Place one copy of the official election results reports, one copy of the machine certificates, one of the duplicate poll lists, all original executed challenges of voters, all precinct register corrections, all voter identification affidavits, all voter assistance forms, any physicians’ certificates, any copies of disability documentation, a copy of each completed notation of irregularities form, and any address confirmation ~~notices forms~~ in the envelope marked “Registrar of Voters”, seal it and attach it to the precinct register after the termination of voting, and place a new protective seal on the precinct register.

* * *

§573. Evidence of election results

* * *

E. Transmission and disposition of original challenges, duplicate voters’ affidavits, and address confirmation ~~notices forms~~. (1) At the opening of the voting machines, the sealed precinct registers shall be immediately returned to the registrar of voters. Upon receipt of the sealed precinct registers, the registrar shall remove any attached original record of challenges of voters made during the election, any precinct register correction affidavits, any voter identification affidavits made pursuant to R.S. 18:562, any address confirmation ~~notices forms~~, any voter assistance forms, any certificates, any copies of disability documentation, and any completed voter registration applications.

(2) The registrar shall utilize the procedures set forth in Part V of Chapter 4 of this Code to determine the validity of the registration of each challenged voter who did not submit an address confirmation ~~notice form~~. In any instance where an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ was received that stated an address different from the address on file in the registrar’s office for a registrant, the registrar shall change the registrant’s address to the address on the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ if the change of address is in the parish; transfer the registrant’s registration to another parish if the address on the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ is in another parish; or cancel the registration if the address on the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ is in another state. If an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ was received that affirmed the address on file in the registrar’s office, the registrar shall reinstate the registrant to the official list of voters if the registrant appears on the inactive list of voters. If the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ was a result of a valid challenge, the registrar shall so inform the district attorney and shall transmit to him the address confirmation ~~notice form~~ of that person.

(3) The registrar also shall proceed to determine if each voter submitting a voter identification affidavit made pursuant to R.S. 18:562 attesting that he is a qualified registered voter is in fact a registered voter qualified to vote in the election by comparing the information provided by the voter with the information on file in the registrar’s office and by reasonably comparing the signature on the affidavit with any signature on file for the voter in the registrar’s office. If the registrar determines that any person who has voted in the election by virtue of his submission of such an affidavit was not a registered voter qualified to vote in the election, the registrar shall so inform the elections compliance unit and shall transmit to it the affidavit of that person.

(4) The registrar shall scan the address confirmation ~~notice form~~, voter identification affidavit, voter assistance form, or voter registration application and add it to the voter’s record in the state voter registration computer system after processing.

§574. Compilation and promulgation of returns

A.

* * *

(2) Immediately after the completion of the verification by the clerk of court and the counting and tabulation of provisional ballots for federal office, if applicable, the board shall publicly prepare ~~two a compiled statements statement~~ of the election returns as shown by the record of the votes made by the clerk of court. The compiled ~~statements~~ statement shall separately show

the machine votes for each candidate and for and against each proposition in each precinct, the total absentee by mail and early voting votes for each candidate and for and against each proposition in the parish, the total provisional votes for each candidate for federal office, and the total of all votes for each candidate and for and against each proposition in the parish.

(3) The board shall complete the compilation of the election returns and file ~~one copy of the compiled statement with the clerk of court no later than 4:00 p.m. on the fifth day after the election. One copy of the compiled statement shall be postmarked~~ The clerk of court shall transmit an electronic copy of the compiled statement to the secretary of state no later than noon on the sixth day after the election and mailed to the secretary of state. The clerk of court shall transmit the election returns as shown by the compiled statement from the parish board of election supervisors to the secretary of state no later than noon on the sixth day after the election. In a parish containing a municipality with a population of three hundred thousand or more, the parish board of election supervisors shall transmit the election returns as shown by their compiled statement to the secretary of state no later than noon on the sixth day after the election. Failure to comply with these time limits shall not void the election.

* * *

§602. Vacancies in certain local and municipal offices; exceptions

* * *

E.

* * *

(2)

* * *

~~(d) Within twenty-four hours~~ Immediately after he receives the copy, the secretary of state shall notify all election officials having any duty to perform in connection with a special election to fill such vacancy, including the parish boards of election supervisors for the parish or parishes in which the vacancy occurred.

* * *

§604. Marshal of city or municipal court; temporary absence; vacancy

* * *

B.

* * *

(2)

* * *

~~(c) A copy of the proclamation shall also be mailed to the secretary of state who shall within twenty-four hours~~ immediately after receipt of the information notify all election officials having any duty to perform in connection with a special election to fill such vacancy, including the parish board of election supervisors. When a special election is required, the appointee shall serve only until the successor is elected and takes office.

§621. Vacancy in office of judge

* * *

B. Immediately after issuance of the proclamation, the secretary of state shall publish the proclamation in the official journal of each parish in which the election is to be held. Within twenty-four hours after its issuance, the governor shall send a copy of the proclamation to the secretary of state. ~~Within twenty-four hours~~ Immediately after he receives the copy, the secretary of state shall notify all election officials having any duty to perform in connection with a special election to fill such vacancy, including the parish boards of election supervisors for the parish or parishes in which the vacancy occurred.

* * *

§1254. Slates of candidates not affiliated with a recognized political party; nominating petitions and qualifying by payment of qualifying fees

* * *

C. Nominating petitions for the office of presidential elector shall be in the form prescribed by R.S. 18:465(D), except that in lieu of including the recognized political party with which the candidates are affiliated, the petition shall contain, in not more than three words, the political principle which the candidates represent. Also, in lieu of the date of the primary election for which the candidates seek to qualify, the petition shall include the date of the general election. ~~The~~ Each sheet of the petition also shall include the names of the candidate for president and the candidate for vice president whom the candidates for elector support in lieu of the candidate’s name and domicile address; however, neither the candidate for president nor the candidate for vice president supported by the slate of candidates for electors shall be a candidate for that office supported by a recognized political party or by a slate of candidates for elector who have previously filed a nominating petition or qualified by the payment of a qualifying fee for that election. Each petition shall contain a full slate of candidates for elector, one from each congressional district and two from the state at large. In designating the office for which the candidate is nominated, the petition shall designate the particular office of presidential elector, that is, the district in which the candidate is a qualified elector if he is nominated for the office for that district, or the designation “At large” in the case of the two offices to be filled at large. Each nominating petition shall be accompanied by the notice of candidacy and notarized affidavit of each candidate for elector signifying that the certificate constitutes his acceptance of the nomination.

* * *

§1259. Arrangement of ballot; designation of party candidates

* * *

B.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

(2) ~~Directly to the left of~~ In addition to the names of the presidential and vice presidential candidates, ~~the following shall appear:~~

§1300.2. Petition for recall election; campaign finance disclosure

C.(1) Prior to the entering of any signatures on a petition, the chairman designated to represent the petitioners shall file with the secretary of state a copy of the recall petition which will be used and copies of a picture identification that contain the name and signature of the chairman and vice chairman, respectively, or copies of current utility bills, bank statements, government checks, paychecks, or other government documents that show the name and address of the chairman and vice chairman, respectively. Upon receipt of the recall petition, the secretary of state shall provide to the chairman and vice chairman, respectively, a document prepared by the secretary of state in conjunction with the Louisiana Registrars of Voters Association, subject to approval as to content by the attorney general, providing general information on petition requirements and deadlines. Upon receipt of the recall petition, the secretary of state shall ~~endorse~~ certify thereon the fact and the date of filing, and this unsigned copy of the recall petition shall be a public record. A copy shall be transmitted by the secretary of state to the registrar of voters for each parish in which the recall election is to be held. The chairman shall list on the petition every parish that is wholly or partially within the voting area where the recall election is to be held. The petition shall be considered filed when it is received in the office of the secretary of state. Upon receipt of the recall petition, the secretary of state shall produce a report of the number of qualified electors in the voting area wherein the recall election is sought effective on the date of receipt of the recall petition and shall notify the registrar of voters in each parish in the voting area of the number of qualified electors of the voting area in the parish for issuance of the certification.

§1300.3. Certification of registrar of voters; addition or withdrawal of signatures; designation as a public record; form of names

(b) The registrar of voters for each parish in the voting area may request and accept the assistance of employees of the Department of State and registrars and deputy registrars of voters from other parishes to complete the certification of the recall petition. ~~Each person offering such assistance shall be considered a deputy registrar of the requesting parish registrar for that purpose only.~~

§1303. Persons entitled to vote in compliance with this Chapter

K. Secretary of state and employees. The secretary of state or an employee of the ~~secretary of state~~ Department of State who is a qualified voter and who submits to the registrar of voters of the parish where he is registered to vote a letter from his supervisor on Department of State letterhead confirming his employment, a paystub, or a copy of a state employee identification card may vote absentee by mail upon meeting the requirements of this Chapter.

L. Employees of the registrar. An employee of the registrar of voters who is a qualified voter registered to vote in a parish other than his parish of employment and who submits to the registrar of voters of the parish where he is registered to vote a letter from his employing registrar of voters confirming his employment, a paystub, or a copy of an identification card showing employment with the registrar of voters may vote absentee by mail upon meeting the requirements of this Chapter.

§1309. Early voting; verification

D.

(2) If the voter's name is found in the state voter registration computer system on the inactive list of voters, the voter shall be required to complete an address confirmation card and form to determine his eligibility to vote.

K.(1) A person qualified voter who is able to perform the essential duties of a commissioner may serve as an early voting commissioner only if he has received a certificate of instruction as provided in R.S. 18:431(A) and has attended a course of instruction for early voting commissioners and received a certificate of instruction from the registrar of voters.

(2) An early voting commissioner shall meet the same qualifications of a commissioner as provided in R.S. 18:425(B). A person to whom one or more of the following applies shall not serve as an early voting commissioner:

~~(a) The person is a candidate in the election.~~

(b) ~~The person is a candidate for election to public office in the election.~~

(c) ~~The person is marked for assistance in voting in the precinct register or requires the use of the audio ballot in voting.~~

~~(d) The person has been convicted of an election offense enumerated in Chapter 10 of this Title.~~

~~(e) The person is required to register as a sex offender or child predator pursuant to R.S. 15:542.~~

N.

THE ADVOCATE
PAGE 7

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

(5) A list of early voting watchers shall be filed with the registrar of voters by hand delivery, facsimile, mail, or commercial courier before 4:30 p.m. on the ~~fourteenth~~ tenth business day before the first day of early voting for the party primary, primary, or general election; however, if the ~~fourteenth~~ tenth business day before the first day of early voting for the party primary, primary, or general election falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, the list shall be filed on the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday. For purposes of this Paragraph, "commercial courier" shall have the same meaning as provided in R.S. 13:3204(D).

§1309.3. Assistance in voting during early voting

B. Persons prohibited from assisting voters during early voting.

(4)

(b) The voter, along with the person assisting the voter, shall complete a voter assistance form and provide the name of the person assisting the voter and attest whether the person, other than a commissioner, providing assistance was paid to assist the voter. If the voter is not marked for assistance in voting in the statewide voter registration database, the voter shall attest on the voter assistance form that the voter has a physical disability or is unable to read and requires assistance in voting.

§1310. Execution of certificate; marking of ballot; casting vote; assistance

A.

(3) In order to cast a vote on an absentee by mail ballot, a voter shall make a selection for a candidate or for or against a proposition by completely filling in the oval to the right of a selection and returning the ballot to the registrar of voters as provided in this Section within the applicable deadline set forth by law. If a voter makes selections for more than the number of candidates to be elected for an office or makes selections for and against the same proposition, the selections for that office or proposition shall be void.

§1313. Tabulation and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots

C.(1) Absentee by mail and early voting ballots shall be counted at a public facility within the parish designated by the registrar of voters at a time fixed by the parish board of election supervisors, which time shall be on election day no later than 8:00 p.m. If the time selected by the parish board of election supervisors to count absentee by mail and early voting ballots is after 4:00 p.m. on election day, the starttime shall be submitted to the commissioner of elections for approval no later than the fourth day prior to election day.

H. The procedure for counting early voting machine ballots and paper ballots voted during early voting shall be as follows:

(3) The board shall post the results from each early voting machine results report for the early voting ballots, unless an early voting machine ballot has been challenged pursuant to B.S. 18:1309(E)(6) or 1315.

(5) The board shall determine the validity of challenges to early voters who cast a paper ballot made in accordance with R.S. 18:1315.

§1313.1. Preparation, verification, tabulation, and counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots

C.

(2) Absentee by mail and early voting ballots shall be counted at a public facility within the parish designated by the registrar of voters at a time fixed by the parish board of election supervisors, which time shall be on election day no later than 8:00 p.m. If the time selected by the parish board of election supervisors to count absentee by mail and early voting ballots is after 4:00 p.m. on election day, the start time shall be submitted to the commissioner of elections for approval no later than the fourth day prior to election day.

I. The procedure for counting early voting machine ballots on election day shall be as follows:

(2) The board shall post the results from each early voting machine results report for the early voting ballots, unless an early voting ballot has been challenged pursuant to R.S. 18:1309(E)(6) or 1315.

§1314. Parish board commissioners

B. Selection for primary election.

(2) The parish board of election supervisors shall meet at 10:00 a.m. on the fifth day before a primary election and shall select the parish board commissioners and alternate parish board commissioners for the parish in the manner provided by law for the selection of commissioners and alternate commissioners. If there are not enough certified commissioners to select

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored (House Bills) and underscored and boldfaced (Senate Bills) are additions.

the appropriate number of parish board commissioners and alternate parish board commissioners, the board of election supervisors may select a qualified elector of the parish to serve; however, no such elector shall serve as a parish board commissioner if a certified commissioner has been selected as an alternate parish board commissioner.

* * *
C. Selection for general election.
* * *

(2)(a) If the parish board determines that the number of parish board commissioners can be reduced, it shall notify each person who served as a parish board commissioner or alternate parish board commissioner in the primary election of its decision to reduce the number of parish board commissioners and of the date and time of the meeting to select the parish board commissioners for the general election. The parish board shall meet ~~at 10:00 a.m.~~ on the fifth day before a general election and shall select the parish board commissioners and alternate parish board commissioners to serve in the general election for the parish.

* * *
(3) If the parish board and the secretary of state or his designee determine that the number of parish board commissioners should be increased, the parish board shall meet ~~at 10:00 a.m.~~ on the fifth day before a general election and shall select the additional parish board commissioners and alternate parish board commissioners to serve in the general election for that parish from the list of certified commissioners who have not been chosen to serve in the general election as a commissioner-in-charge, commissioner, or, if applicable, parish board commissioner in the manner provided by law for the selection of commissioners and alternate commissioners. If there are not enough certified commissioners to select the appropriate number of parish board commissioners and alternate parish board commissioners, the board of election supervisors may select a qualified elector of the parish to serve; however, no such elector shall serve as a parish board commissioner if a certified commissioner has been selected as an alternate parish board commissioner.

* * *
§1315. Challenge of absentee by mail or early voting ballot

A.(1)(a) A candidate or his representative, a member of the board, or a qualified elector may challenge an absentee by mail ~~or early voting~~ ballot for the grounds specified in R.S. 18:565(A), by personally filing his written challenge with the registrar no later than the fourth day before the election for which the ballot is challenged. ~~Such challenge shall be on a form provided by the secretary of state.~~

~~(b) A candidate or his representative, a member of the board, an early voting watcher, or a qualified elector may challenge a person applying to early vote on the grounds specified in R.S. 18:565(A), prior to the person casting an early voting ballot. The challenged early voter shall not cast his ballot on an early voting machine, but shall be provided a paper ballot in accordance with R.S. 18:1309(E)(5)(b).~~

~~(2) A challenge made pursuant to this Subsection shall be on a form provided by the secretary of state which The form shall include:~~

* * *
B. During the preparation and verification process for the counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots before the election, as applicable, or the counting of absentee by mail and early voting ballots on election day, any candidate or his representative, member of the board, or qualified elector may challenge an absentee by mail or early voting ~~paper~~ ballot for cause, other than those grounds specified in R.S. 18:565(A). Failure to include a witness's ~~printed name or~~ mailing address on an absentee ballot certificate shall not be grounds to challenge an absentee by mail ballot.

* * *
D.
* * *

(2) If a challenge in accordance with the provisions of Subsection A of this Section is sustained, the vote shall not be counted; the ballot or early voting confirmation sheet shall be placed in the special, secure absentee by mail and early voting ballot container; and the board shall notify the voter in writing of the challenge and the cause therefor. This notification shall be on a form provided by the secretary of state and shall be signed by at least a majority of the members of the board. The notice of the challenge and the cause therefor shall be given within four business days by mail, addressed to the voter at his place of residence. The board shall retain a copy of the notification. However, if the challenge is based upon a change of residence within the parish or is based upon a change of residence outside of the parish that has occurred within the last three months, the ballot shall be counted, provided that the voter confirmed his current address as shown by the affidavit of the absentee by mail ballot certificate or early voting confirmation sheet or, if the voter is on the inactive list of voters, as shown by the information provided on an address confirmation ~~notice form~~.

* * *
§1316. Rejection of ballot having distinguishing marks
* * *

D. The secretary of state may promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act necessary to effectuate the provisions and purposes of this Section.

§1317. Curing absentee by mail ballot deficiencies; rejection of deficient ballots

A.(1) The secretary of state shall promulgate and adopt rules in accordance

with the Administrative Procedure Act as necessary to effectuate uniform and standardized processes for the review and curing or rejection of deficient absentee by mail ballots by the parish board of election supervisors;.

(2) The failure of a witness to provide his printed name or address on the absentee by mail certificate shall not be deemed a deficiency requiring cure.
B. The secretary of state shall maintain records of all ballots rejected pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 18:1315(D)(3)(a); and shall include information detailing the total number of ballots rejected per parish and the reasons for their rejection in the post-election statistical data published to the website of the secretary of state.

* * *
§1333. Nursing home early voting program; voting by persons residing in a nursing home
* * *

B. A qualified voter who resides in a nursing home within the parish in which the voter is entitled to vote may vote early as provided in this Section during the period extending at least two weeks prior to the beginning day for early voting through four days before election day the last day for early voting established by R.S. 18:1309.

* * *
G. The voting by each voter shall be accomplished in the following manner:

(1) The voter shall present to the registrar the letter the voter received from the registrar that bears the reply number assigned as provided in Subsection E of this Section. The registrar shall compare the number on the letter with the number on the absentee by mail ballot envelope in his possession and, if they are identical, the registrar shall hand the envelope containing the absentee by mail ballot to the voter. However, if the voter is on the inactive list of voters, the voter shall complete an address confirmation ~~notice form~~ prior to receiving the envelope containing the absentee by mail ballot.

* * *
(7) Upon receipt of an address confirmation ~~notice form~~, the registrar shall reinstate the voter to the official list of voters.

* * *
§1367.2. Authority to resolve protested solicitations and awards
* * *

~~F. Stay of procurements during protests. In the event of a timely protest under Subsection A of this Section, the state shall not proceed further with the solicitation or with the awarding of the contract unless the chief procurement officer makes a written determination that the awarding of the contract is necessary without delay to protect the substantial interests of the state. Upon such determination by the chief procurement officer, no court shall enjoin progress under the award except after notice and hearing. Protest bond to stay procurement during protest. (1) A protestant who timely protests a solicitation or an award may apply for a stay only during the time period provided in Subsection A of this Section to protest a solicitation or an award.(2) The protest bond and stay application shall be conducted in the manner provided in R.S. 39:1671(F)(2) and (3).~~

* * *
§1367.11. ~~Trial; Hearing;~~ decision; appeal
A. Actions objecting to the solicitation or award of a contract pursuant to this Subpart shall be ~~tried heard~~ summarily on the administrative record, without a jury, and in open court. The trial hearing, which shall be confined to the administrative record, shall begin no later than fourteen days after suit is filed.

* * *
§1371. Delivery and return of machines and supplies; contract; time of delivery

A.(1)(a) The secretary of state shall contract for the delivery to the voting precincts of the election day machines and other election equipment and supplies for which he is responsible and for their return to the storage warehouses. The specifications for the contract shall be prepared by the secretary of state after consultation with and approval by the parish custodian of the parish in which the contract is to be performed. The contract shall be ~~advertised and let~~ procured in accordance with the Louisiana Procurement Code. The governing authority of the parish or municipality in which the voting machines are to be used may submit bids and be awarded contracts for the drayage of the voting machines.

(b) The secretary of state may contract for delivery the week prior to the beginning of early voting until no later than 11:59 p.m. on the day before early voting begins for an election, in the parishes that have three or more early voting locations, of the voting machines and other election equipment and supplies for which he is responsible and for their return to the offices of the registrars of voters or the location designated by the registrar of voters within twenty-four hours of the end of early voting. The specifications for the contract shall be prepared by the secretary of state after consultation with and approval by the registrar of voters of the parish in which the contract is to be performed. The contract shall be ~~advertised and let~~ procured in accordance with the Louisiana Procurement Code. The governing authority of the parish or municipality in which the voting machines are to be used may submit bids and be awarded contracts for the drayage of the early voting machines.

(2) If the secretary of state seeks to award a contract by competitive sealed bidding, in addition to all other notices and advertisements for bids required, the secretary of state shall furnish notice of the invitation for bids at least thirty days prior to the opening of bids for each contract for the delivery of machines to the early voting locations or voting precincts for a

parish in the following manner:

§1401. Objections to candidacy; contests of elections; contests of certification of recall petition; parties authorized to institute actions; penalties

G. A qualified elector may bring an action objecting to the placement of a constitutional amendment on a ballot.

H. Upon a determination that a candidate knowingly attested to false information in a notice of candidacy, the court shall assess court costs and attorney fees, and the court may impose any other sanctions the court deems appropriate against the candidate.

§1402. Proper parties

B.(1) The following persons are the proper parties against whom election contests shall be instituted:

(a) The secretary of state, in his official capacity, when contesting an election on any proposed amendment to the constitution or when contesting the placement of a constitutional amendment on a ballot.

§1405. Time for commencement of action

A. An action objecting to candidacy shall be instituted no earlier than the day the candidate submits his notice of candidacy to the qualifying official and no not later than 4:30 p.m. of the seventh day after the close of qualifications for candidates in the primary election. After the expiration of the time period set forth in this Section, no further action shall be commenced objecting to candidacy based on the grounds for objections to candidacy contained in R.S. 18:492.

B. An action contesting any election involving election to office shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the date of the election and no not later than 4:30 p.m. of the ninth day after the date of the election, and no such contest shall be declared moot because of the performance or nonperformance of a ministerial function including but not limited to matters relating to the printing of ballots for the general election.

C.(1) An action contesting an election on a proposed constitutional amendment shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the election and not no later than 4:30 p.m. of the tenth day after promulgation of the results of the election by the secretary of state.

(2) An action objecting to the placement of a constitutional amendment on a ballot shall be instituted no earlier than the date of the final passage of the joint resolution calling the election and no later than 4:30 p.m. of the thirtieth day after final passage of the legislative instrument calling the election.

D. An action contesting an election submitting a proposition to the voters, except a constitutional amendment or a proposition covered by Subsection Paragraph (C)(2) or Subsection E of this Section, shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the date of the election and no not later than 4:30 p.m. of the thirtieth day after the official promulgation of the results of the election.

E. An action contesting an election on a proposition submitted to the voters relating to the issuance of bonds, refunding bonds, assuming an indebtedness, or levying a tax shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the date of the election and no not later than 4:30 p.m. of the sixtieth day after official promulgation of the results. If the legality of the election, the bond issue provided for, the tax authorized, or the assumption of indebtedness is not contested within the sixty days herein prescribed, the authority to incur the debt, levy the tax, or issue the bonds, the legality thereof, and the taxes and other revenues necessary to pay the same shall be conclusively presumed to be valid and no court thereafter shall have authority to inquire into such matters.

F. An action contesting the certification of a recall petition shall be instituted after the certification of the recall petition as provided in R.S. 18:1300.3 and not later than 4:30 p.m. of the fifteenth day after the governor has issued the proclamation ordering the recall election or not later than 4:30 p.m. of the fifteenth day after the last day for the governor to call the election if no recall election is called.

G. Except as provided in Paragraph (C)(1) of this Section, an An action objecting to the calling of a special election shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the date the election is called and no not later than 4:30 p.m. of the fourteenth day after the calling of the election date the election is called.

H. An action contesting any election involving the recall of a public officer shall be instituted no earlier than the day after the date of the election and no not later than 4:30 p.m. of the ninth day after the date of the election.

§1413. Computation of time

Computation of all time intervals in this Chapter shall include Sundays and other legal holidays. However, if the time interval ends on a Sunday or other legal holiday, then ~~noon~~ 4:30 p.m. of the next legal day shall be deemed to be the end of the time interval.

§1922.2. Approval of reapportionment plan by local election officials

B.

(2) The registrar of voters and clerk of court shall review and confirm in writing the ability to conduct an election utilizing the proposed plan.

(3) The local governing body shall submit to the secretary of state in accordance with timetables in this Section, the written report received by

the local governing body.

Section 2. R.S. 18:107(H) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§107. Party affiliation for registration; change in party affiliation

H. A person who is registered as or who applies for registration as “unaffiliated” shall have his party affiliation changed to “no party”.

Section 3. R.S. 18:154(C)(1)(h) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§154. Records open to inspection; copying; exceptions

C.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, the registrar, the clerk of court, the Department of State, the office of motor vehicles of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections and any entity that contracts with the office, each voter registration agency and any entity that contracts with a voter registration agency, and any person who handles the voter registration application form of another person shall be prohibited from circulating on a commercial list or otherwise disclosing the following:

(h) The voter registration application and any information contained on the voter registration application of any person who is sixteen or seventeen years of age, except that the voter registration information of a person who is seventeen years of age may appear in a precinct register when that person will be eighteen years of age within seven days before an election day.

Section 4. R.S. 18:402(G)(1) as amended and reenacted by Act No. 640 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature shall supercede R.S. 18:402(G)(1) as amended and reenacted by Act No. 386 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature.

Section 5. R.S. 18:2(9) and 154(F)(8) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2. Definitions

As used in this Code, the following words and terms shall have the meanings hereinafter ascribed to each, unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

(9) “Party primary office” means an office of senator ~~or representative~~ in the United States Congress, justice of the supreme court, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Public Service Commission.

§154. Records open to inspection; copying; exceptions

F. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, the registrar, the clerk of court, and the Department of State shall be prohibited from disclosing the following:

(8) Votes that are void because of the death of a candidate pursuant to R.S. 18:469, withdrawal of a candidate pursuant to R.S. 18:502, resignation of a public officer subject to a recall election pursuant to R.S. 18:1300.7, ~~or~~ disqualification of a candidate pursuant to R.S. 18:1410, or cancellation of an election for an office or proposition.

Section 6. R.S. 18:2(9) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§2. Definitions

As used in this Code, the following words and terms shall have the meanings hereinafter ascribed to each, unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

(9) “Party primary office” means an office of senator or representative in the United States Congress, justice of the supreme court, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Public Service Commission.

Section 7.(A)(1) The May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary elections for representative in the United States Congress are hereby cancelled. Notwithstanding any provision of the Louisiana Election Code to the contrary, votes cast in the May 16, 2026, or June 27, 2026, party primary election for representative in the United States Congress shall be void and not counted. No election official, as defined in R.S. 18:1466, shall disclose votes cast in the May 16, 2026, or June 27, 2026, party primary election for representative in the United States Congress.

(2) The secretary of state shall remit to each candidate the state portion of the qualifying fee, as provided for in R.S. 18:464(B)(1), and the additional qualifying fee, as provided for in R.S. 18:464(B)(5), that the candidate paid to qualify for the May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary elections for representative in the United States Congress. The secretary of state shall cancel any nominating petition received for the May 16, 2026, and June 27, 2026, party primary elections for representative in the United States Congress.

(B) Candidates for representative in the United States Congress shall be elected at the open primary election to be held on November 3, 2026, and the open general election to be held on December 12, 2026.

(C)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 18:467, the qualifying period for all candidates in the 2026 fall primary election, including candidates for representative in the United States Congress, shall begin on August 5, 2026. The qualifying period for such candidates shall close at 4:30 p.m. on August 7, 2026.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 18:465(C)(3)(b), the number of qualified voters who must timely sign a nominating petition for a candidate

for representative in the United States Congress for the 2026 congressional election shall be two hundred fifty. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 18:465(D), the nominating petition shall not be required to set forth the congressional district for which a candidate for representative in the United States Congress seeks to qualify until the petition is submitted to the registrar of voters. A qualified voter may sign the nominating petition beginning on the effective date of this Section. The nominating petition shall be submitted to the registrar of voters no later than July 9, 2026.

- Section 8.(A) Section 1 of this Act shall become effective August 1, 2026.
- (B) Section 2 of this Act shall become effective September 1, 2026.
- (C) Section 3 of this Act shall become effective February 1, 2027.
- (D) Section 6 of this Act shall become effective January 1, 2027.
- (E) Sections 4, 5, and 7 and this Section of this Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, Sections 4, 5, and 7 and this Section of this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 8

HOUSE BILL NO. 56
BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO
AN ACT

To repeal R.S. 14:98.1(A)(4), 98.2(A)(5), 98.3(A)(4), and 98.4(A)(3), relative to additional fines imposed for driving while impaired; and to provide for an effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:98.1(A)(4), 98.2(A)(5), 98.3(A)(4), and 98.4(A)(3) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor, or if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 9

SENATE BILL NO. 66
BY SENATOR HODGES AND REPRESENTATIVES CHENEVERT,
EDMONSTON AND LARVADAIN
AN ACT

To enact Subpart I of Part III of Chapter 1 of Code Title V of Code Book I of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 9:360 through 360.1, relative to child custody; to provide relative to testimony of medical experts in certain circumstances; to provide relative to trial procedure in certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Subpart I of Part III of Chapter 1 of Code Title V of Code Book I of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 9:360 through 360.1, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

SUBPART I. MEDICAL EXPERT TESTIMONY
§360. Medical expert testimony; priority for trial
In any proceeding in which a medical expert has been subpoenaed to testify based upon allegations of abuse or neglect of a child, the court shall take the testimony of the medical expert in priority to the parties and other witnesses, absent extenuating circumstances that would prohibit this procedure. The court shall take the testimony of the medical expert for all purposes by which the medical expert's appearance is responsive to a subpoena.

§360.1. Applicability
The provisions of this Subpart shall apply to child custody proceedings pursuant to Title V of the Civil Code and child in need of care proceedings pursuant to Title VI of the Children's Code.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 10

SENATE BILL NO. 73
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT

To repeal Section 4 of Act No. 774 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

of Louisiana and Section 5 of Act No. 411 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, relative to the assessment, payment, and allocation of ad valorem taxes; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Section 4 of Act No. 774 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. Section 5 of Act No. 411 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 11

SENATE BILL NO. 127
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Art. 4566(C) and to enact R.S. 9:1026 and 2374, relative to donations; to provide relative to management of affairs of the interdict; to provide relative to donations made by a curator on behalf of an interdict; to provide relative to the net worth of an interdict; to provide relative to donations inter vivos and testamentary and charitable dispositions; to provide with respect to limitations and exceptions on donations and testamentary and charitable dispositions in certain circumstances; to provide with respect to tax exclusions, exemptions, and maximum limits in certain circumstances; to provide relative to forced heirs with disabilities; to provide relative to forced portion in certain circumstances; to provide relative to the net worth of a forced heir with disabilities; to provide for certain terms, conditions, and procedures; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Art. 4566(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 4566. Management of affairs of the interdict

* * *

C. A curator may accept donations made to the interdict. A curator shall not make donations of the property of the interdict except as provided by law. **A charitable donation inter vivos or testamentary charitable disposition made in compliance with the provisions of R.S. 9:1026 and approved by the court shall not constitute a breach of the fiduciary duty or conflict of interest by the curator even if the curator, undercurator, parent, direct descendant, sibling, or descendant of a sibling of the interdict is affiliated with the charity or a recipient of the donation. A curator without court approval may refuse, renounce, or disclaim a donation, inheritance, or bequest made to an interdict with a direct or beneficial net worth as a trust beneficiary or otherwise of one hundred million dollars or more.**

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 9:1026 and 2374 are hereby enacted to read as follows:
§1026. Interdicts; donations; limitations; net worth

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 9:1022 through 1024 and pursuant to Subsection C of this Section, upon request of the curator and undercurator, the court may authorize a curator, in the name of and on behalf of an interdict with a direct or beneficial net worth of one hundred million dollars or more as a trust beneficiary or otherwise, to make the following donations:

(1) Subject to Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and Subsection C of this Section, other than to charitable recipients, an interdict may make, directly or indirectly, donations inter vivos of money and other assets from surplus funds of the interdict utilizing all or a portion of the interdict's annual federal gift tax exclusions pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 2503(b) and the interdict's lifetime credits and exemptions from federal estate tax and the tax on generation skipping transfers, pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 2010 and 2631 et seq., to one or more of the following: an interdict's direct descendant, sibling, descendant of a sibling, stepsibling, descendant of a stepsibling, or step-descendant of a sibling, or to one or more trusts for the benefit of the recipient or one or more class trusts for the benefit of such present and future recipients, including to grantor trusts. Additional donations inter vivos pursuant to this Paragraph may be made, except to a stepsibling, descendant of a stepsibling, step-descendant of a sibling, or a trust for the benefit of a stepsibling or step-descendant of a sibling, subject to a maximum lifetime limit of five times the prevailing federal estate tax lifetime exemption equivalent.

(2) Inter vivos noncharitable donations authorized in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection in the name or on behalf of an interdict shall be made in equal amounts to each member of the same class and generation descending from a common parent. Inter vivos noncharitable donations authorized in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection and made to nieces and nephews, including step-nieces and step-nephews, with the same parent shall be made equally to each descendant of that parent of the same generation.

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

~~(3) If the federal gift tax has been repealed, cumulative inter vivos transfers otherwise authorized in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection are permitted subject to an aggregate lifetime amount equal to six hundred percent of the highest gift tax lifetime exemption in effect prior to the gift tax being repealed. Annual exclusion donations may be made subject to the provisions of this Section after donations in the maximum allowable amounts pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.~~

~~(4) Noncharitable testamentary dispositions made upon the death of the interdict, other than through intestacy, including a self-settled trust in which the interdict is a beneficiary may only be made to a direct descendant, sibling, descendant of a sibling of an interdict, one or more trusts for the benefit of such recipients, or one or more class trusts for the benefit of such present and future recipients, including to grantor trusts, but may not be made to a stepsibling, descendant of a stepsibling, or trust for the benefit of such recipient. Testamentary dispositions pursuant to this Paragraph shall be made in equal amounts to recipients of the same class and generation, except that a catch-up bequest may be made to an interdict's direct descendant, sibling, or descendant of a sibling to equalize a donation to a permissible recipient born after inter vivos donations were made to other recipients of the same degree.~~

~~(5) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to annul or supersede a lawful will or trust in effect prior to a person being interdicted.~~

~~(6) Inter vivos charitable dispositions may be made to charitable recipients, including split interest trusts, donor-advised funds, charitable trusts, and private foundations, even if such donees are controlled by a parent, direct descendant, sibling, or descendant of a sibling of an interdict, up to a maximum annual aggregate amount of ten percent of the interdict's net worth in excess of one hundred million dollars. An inter vivos charitable disposition pursuant to this Paragraph shall not be allowed if the interdict's net worth is less than one hundred million dollars.~~

~~B. Inter vivos donations, testamentary and charitable dispositions, including a charitable remainder trust, to one or more charities may be made that take effect upon the death of the interdict provided that such charitable donations shall not exceed an aggregate of seventy-five percent of the interdict's gross estate at the time of his death for federal estate tax reporting purposes.~~

~~C.(1) The court may authorize a curator to make a donation pursuant to Subsection A of this Section when the procedure provided for in Code of Civil Procedure Articles 4271 and 4566 is complied with and the donation does not materially impair the financial condition of the interdict and is not likely to deprive the interdict of sufficient funds to provide for his future needs and support. The court may require the curator to provide documentation to substantiate the request to make a donation and place the information obtained under seal.~~

~~(2) For purposes of this Subsection, it is presumed that a donation does not materially impair the financial condition of the interdict or deprive the interdict of sufficient resources if the curator shows that the direct or beneficial net worth of the interdict is not less than one hundred million dollars as a trust beneficiary or otherwise, after subtracting the value of the donation.~~

~~§2374. Forced heirs; disability; forced portion; limitations; net worth Notwithstanding the provisions of Civil Code Article 1495, a forced heir who has attained the age of majority, is permanently incapable of taking care of his person or administering his estate due to mental incapacity, physical infirmity, an inherited incurable disease, or other documented medical condition at the time of the death of a decedent who is an ancestor of such forced heir, and who has a direct or beneficial net worth in excess of fifty million dollars as a trust beneficiary or otherwise, shall have a forced portion of one dollar.~~

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 12

SENATE BILL NO. 128
BY SENATOR FOIL
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 47:818.52(D), the introductory paragraph of 1516.1(B), 1562(A), 1565(A), 1566(B), and the introductory paragraph of 1602(D)(2), relative to certain notices sent by the Department of Revenue; to provide relative to authorized changes of address by the Department of Revenue; to provide for private entities from which addresses may be obtained; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 47:818.52(D), the introductory paragraph of 1516.1(B), 1562(A), 1565(A), 1566(B), and the introductory paragraph of 1602(D)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§818.52. Fuel use violations; penalty

D. Upon issuance of the violation ticket by the secretary or his authorized designee or any weights and standard police officer or any motor carrier safety police officer, the secretary will send a notice of fine by certified mail to the address listed on the violation report, or to the taxpayer's last known address, or to any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government

entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software. The procedure for collection, payment, and enforcement of the fine assessed shall be as follows:

§1516.1. In-state debt collection

B. Once an obligation has become collectible by distraint and sale, as provided in this Chapter, the secretary shall send a notice to the taxpayer at the address given in the last report filed by said taxpayer, or to any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software informing him of the following:

§1562. Determination and notice of tax due

A. If a taxpayer fails to make and file any return or report required by the provisions of this Subtitle, the secretary shall determine the tax, penalty, and interest due by estimate or otherwise. Having determined the amount of tax, penalty, and interest due, the secretary shall send by mail a notice to the taxpayer at the address given in the last report filed by him pursuant to the provisions of the Chapter governing the tax involved, or to any address that may be obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software, setting out his determination and informing the person of his purpose to assess the amount so determined against him after thirty calendar days from the date of the notice.

§1565. Notice of assessment and right to appeal

A. Having assessed the amount determined to be due, the secretary shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer against whom the assessment is imposed at the address given in the last report filed by the taxpayer, or to any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software. However, if the notice is to be mailed to an address outside the United States, the secretary shall send notice by First-Class Mail International with Electronic United States Postal Service Delivery Confirmation. If no report has been timely filed, the secretary shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer against whom the assessment is imposed at any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal service certified software. However, if the notice is to be mailed to an address outside the United States, the secretary shall send notice by First-Class Mail International with Electronic United States Postal Service Delivery Confirmation. This notice shall inform the taxpayer of the assessment and that he has sixty calendar days from the date of the notice to either pay the amount of the assessment or to appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals for a redetermination of the assessment. All such appeals shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 17 of this Subtitle.

§1566. Assessment and notice when tax is in jeopardy

B. As soon as is feasible after such assessment, and not later than two calendar days thereafter, the secretary shall send by certified mail a notice to the taxpayer against whom the assessment lies, at the address given in the last report filed by said taxpayer, or to any such address as may be obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software. However, if the notice is to be mailed to an address outside of the United States, the secretary shall send notice by First-Class Mail International with Electronic USPS Delivery Confirmation. Such notice shall inform the taxpayer of the assessment, its basis, and its jeopardous nature; make demand for immediate payment thereof; and give notice that any property distrained or to be distrained will be subject to sale, as provided in this Chapter, to satisfy the assessment.

§1602. Penalty for failure to make timely return; penalties related to nonpayment or underpayment

D.(1)

(2) The secretary shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer at the address given in the last report filed by the taxpayer, or to any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge~~ or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software informing him of the following:

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on

the day following such approval.
Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 13

SENATE BILL NO. 139
BY SENATOR FOIL
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5112(C), relative to suits against the state or a political subdivision; to provide relative to the accrual rate of legal or judicial interest on any claim for personal injury or wrongful death; to provide relative to requirements, conditions, and procedures; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 13:5112(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§5112. Suits against the state or political subdivision; court costs; interest
* * *

C.(1) Legal interest on any claim for personal injury or wrongful death shall accrue at the lesser of six percent per annum or the rate of judicial interest in accordance with R.S. 13:4202. Legal interest shall accrue from the date service is requested following judicial demand until the judgment thereon is signed by the trial judge in accordance with Code of Civil Procedure Article 1911.
(2) Legal interest accruing subsequent to the signing of the judgment shall be at the rate fixed by R.S. 9:3500. Judicial interest accruing subsequent to the signing of the judgment shall be at the rate fixed by R.S. 13:4202.
* * *

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 14

SENATE BILL NO. 238
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:2121, relative to the assessment, payment, and collection of ad valorem taxes; to provide for the collection of delinquent statutory impositions; to provide for tax notice requirements; to provide relative to notice and enforcement requirements for certain tax sales; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 47:2121 is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§2121. Tax sale held prior to January 1, 2026: applicability procedures
A.(1) All delinquent statutory impositions for which tax sale title was not sold prior to January 1, 2026, shall be subject to the collection procedures set forth in this Chapter.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, if, prior to January 1, 2026, a tax collector has provided notice to all tax notice parties, notice of statutory impositions due in accordance with the law in effect at the time the statutory impositions were assessed, this notice shall be deemed sufficient to satisfy the requirements of R.S. 47:2127(E), provided that all steps taken toward the collection of the statutory impositions after December 31, 2025, comply with the provisions of this Chapter, including the use of the tax lien auction procedures set forth in R.S. 47:2154.

B. For tax sales held prior to January 1, 2026, the rights of the tax sale purchaser, or his successors or assigns, shall be subject to the notice and enforcement procedures provided for in the law in effect at the time of the tax sale.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 15

SENATE BILL NO. 256
BY SENATOR MORRIS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:761(C), 1211, 1211.1, 1212(A), (B)(1) through (5), 1212.1, 1213.1, 1213.2, 1216, 1222, 1338, 1371.2, 1373(A)(1), 1373.1, the introductory paragraph of 1381, 1381(21), 1381.3, 1381.5(A) and (B)(2)(e), 1381.7(A), 2515, and 5971, R.S. 15:85.1(A)(2)(d) and R.S. 18:2(3), 444(E), 602(C) (1) and (E)(2)(c), 1300.7(B), 1354(A)(1), 1511.2(E), and 1511.3(A)(1) and to repeal

R.S. 13:1031, 1033, 1371, 1371.1, and 1378, relative to the clerk of court in Orleans Parish; to provide for one clerk of the civil district court and the criminal district court; to provide for payments from the Clerk of Court Expense Fund; to provide for the administration of the court by the clerk of court in Orleans Parish; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 13:761(C), 1211, 1211.1, 1212(A), (B)(1) through (5), 1212.1, 1213.1, 1213.2, 1216, 1222, 1338, 1371.2, 1373(A)(1), 1373.1, the introductory paragraph of 1381, 1381(21), 1381.3, 1381.5(A) and (B)(2)(e), 1381.7(A), 2515, and 5971 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§761. Clerks' Supplemental Compensation Fund; creation; sources of funds
* * *

C. The clerks of all of the district courts ~~and criminal district courts~~ of this state shall remit to the Clerks' Supplemental Compensation Fund from the funds transferred from the advance deposit account to the salary fund account an amount calculated at the rate of four dollars for every original civil suit filed in their offices. The clerk of the ~~Civil District Court~~ court for the parish of Orleans shall remit the fees required in this Subsection from the judicial expense fund of the Civil District Court for the parish of Orleans. ~~The clerk of the Criminal District Court for the parish of Orleans shall remit the fees required in this Subsection from the clerk of the Criminal District Court Expense Fund for the parish of Orleans.~~ The clerks of all of the district courts and criminal district courts of this state shall remit all costs so collected to the board monthly on or before the tenth day of each calendar month. The disbursement of the proceeds from the fund may be authorized only by a majority of the members of the board.
* * *

§1211. Qualifications; duties; bond; collection of fees; deputies; minute clerks

The qualifications and duties of the **Orleans** clerk of ~~civil district~~ court shall be as now fixed by law. He shall furnish bond in the sum of twenty thousand dollars, which shall be examined by the court, and all testimony given in the examination shall be reduced to writing and filed of record in the court. He shall charge and collect the fees prescribed by the legislature until superseded by those fixed by the court. The clerk is authorized, ~~with the approval of the judges of the civil district court, to appoint deputies and other assistants; and he may remove them at pleasure, or the court may remove them.~~ Each judge of the civil district court ~~and criminal district court~~ shall ~~appoint~~ **be appointed, subject to the rules of the court to which they are assigned,** one minute clerk, who shall be sworn as deputy clerk, and shall receive a salary as the ~~court en banc executive committee of the Consolidated Judicial Expense Fund for Orleans Parish~~ may fix. **The salaries currently paid by the City of New Orleans shall be continued at the current amount until the executive committee certifies there are sufficient funds to pay them.** When directed by the court, a minute clerk shall administer the oath required by law of all witnesses and jurors.

§1211.1. Clerk; election; term of office
~~A.~~ There shall be one clerk of the ~~Civil District Court~~ court for the parish of Orleans, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of Orleans Parish. He shall be elected at the election for parochial and municipal officers in Orleans Parish, shall serve for a term of four years, and shall take office and begin his term on the first Monday in May following election.

B. To facilitate transition to a consolidated office of the clerk of court, no employee of the clerk of the Criminal District Court on the date this Section becomes effective may be discharged from employment by the clerk before January 15, 2027, except for good cause shown including but not limited to insubordination or violation of any state or federal law, notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 13:1371.2. The clerk of the office of the consolidated clerk of court may hire temporary employees or hire contractors to assist in the transition using unrestricted funds of the clerk until June 30, 2027.

§1212. Salary
A. The **Orleans** clerk of the ~~civil district~~ court shall receive a salary as established in R.S. 13:782(A) based on the applicable population of the parish according to the latest United States census which shall be payable out of the ~~judicial expense~~ **clerk's salary** fund beginning with Fiscal Year 1997-1998 and each fiscal year thereafter. In addition to this amount, the clerk of the ~~civil district~~ court shall receive a salary of ten thousand dollars which shall be payable by the state **judicial expense fund**.

B.(1) The Louisiana Clerks of Court Certification program, as established pursuant to R.S. 13:782(I) and (J), shall apply to the clerk of the ~~Civil District Court~~ court for the parish of Orleans.

(2) In addition to those persons eligible pursuant to R.S. 13:782(I)(3) and 1371.1(B)(2), the person holding the office of clerk of the ~~Civil District Court~~ court for the parish of Orleans shall be eligible for participation in the clerks of court certification program.

(3) The requisite education and training will be provided as set forth in R.S. 13:782(I)(4).

(4) The clerks of court certification program committee, as created pursuant to R.S. 13:782(J) to govern the certification program, shall also apply to the clerk of the ~~Civil District Court~~ court for the parish of Orleans.

(5) Documents showing the successful completion of the certification program shall be submitted to and approved by the certification committee. Upon approval of the application for certification, a person holding the office of clerk of the ~~Civil District Court~~ court for the parish of Orleans shall receive the designation of Certified Clerk of Court (CCC) and notice of the approval

shall be forwarded to the legislative auditor by the certification committee.

* * *

§1212.1. Expenses

In addition to his salary, the clerk of the Civil District Court ~~court~~ for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans, shall receive a sum not to exceed ten percent of his annual salary as an expense allowance. This allowance shall be payable out of the judicial expense ~~clerk's salary~~ fund upon the warrant of the clerk of the civil district court.

* * *

§1213.1. Payment of costs in lump sum

In lieu of the fees enumerated in R.S. 13:1213 or otherwise set by the judges of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, the judges of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans may authorize the clerk of the Civil District Court ~~court~~ to demand and receive from plaintiffs and defendants a fee to cover the cost of all pleadings filed respectively by the plaintiff and by the defendant. Such fee shall be in an amount set by the judges of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, sitting en banc, and may vary according to the type of lawsuit filed. Different fees may be established for the plaintiff and for the defendant. Upon the filing of initial pleadings by the plaintiff, the clerk shall collect the fee from the plaintiff, and no further or additional fees shall be demanded by the clerk from the plaintiff upon the filing of subsequent pleadings by the plaintiff. Upon the filing of initial pleadings by the defendant, the clerk shall collect the fee from the defendant, and no further or additional fees shall be demanded by the clerk from the defendant upon the filing of subsequent pleadings by the defendant.

§1213.2. Fees; clerk of the Civil District Court ~~court~~

The Orleans clerk of the Civil District Court ~~court~~ shall collect the fees and costs set forth in R.S. 13:1213.1, and any other applicable law, and shall deposit no less than fifty ~~forty~~ percent of the amounts collected in the Clerk's Salary Fund. Fifty ~~Sixty~~ percent shall be deposited in the judicial expense fund for the Civil District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans after deduction of statutorily mandated charges and fees. The clerk shall remit to the judicial expense fund of the Civil District Court fifty ~~sixty~~ percent of such fees no later than the twenty-fifth day of the month following the preceding month's collection.

* * *

§1216. Docket and index

The clerk of the civil district court shall keep a docket of each proceeding with a proper index thereto.

* * *

§1222. Motor vehicles for the office of the clerk of the civil district court

A. The clerk of the civil district court may purchase or lease three motor vehicles to be used for official office use only.

B. The clerk of the civil district court may purchase insurance for the motor vehicles authorized in Subsection A of this Section. The insurance shall be purchased from an insurance company which is licensed to do business under the laws of this state.

C. The clerk of the civil district court may use any funds which are lawfully available to him to purchase or lease the motor vehicles and to pay the insurance on the motor vehicles, as authorized in this Section.

* * *

§1338. Transfer of cases

A. All pending cases filed in the Civil District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans over civil commitment proceedings where the Criminal District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans has determined a mentally defective defendant is incapable of standing trial, is a danger to himself or others, and is unlikely in the foreseeable future to be capable of standing trial are hereby transferred to the Criminal District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans for further proceedings in accordance with law. A judge of the civil district court or the criminal district court on his own motion, or upon motion by the district attorney of Orleans Parish or the attorney of the defendant, may have such case transferred upon the signing of the order to transfer by either a judge of the Criminal District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans or a judge of the Civil District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans. Upon the signing of such an order, the clerk of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans or the clerk of the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans shall effect delivery of the record to the clerk of the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans, who shall receipt the same and properly file it in his office. The Criminal District Court for the Parish ~~parish~~ of Orleans shall hear and dispose of the case with the same legal effect as if it had been instituted in that court in the first instance.

B. With respect to cases and jurisdiction transferred according to this Section, the criminal sheriff for the parish of Orleans is vested with the power and authority to serve all notices, subpoenas, papers, writs, and orders and to make proper return thereto to the Criminal District Court for the Parish ~~paish~~ of Orleans.

* * *

§1371.2. Clerk; election; term of office; deputy clerks

A. There shall be one clerk of the Criminal District Court for the parish of Orleans, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the parish of Orleans. He shall be elected at the election for parochial and municipal officers in Orleans Parish, shall serve for a term of four years, and shall take office and begin his term on the first Monday in May following election.

B. The clerk of the Criminal District Court ~~court~~ for the parish of Orleans shall appoint, with the approval of the judges of the court, such deputy clerks as are necessary to properly conduct the business of his office and of the

court. He may remove them at pleasure, or the court en banc to which they are assigned may remove them.

* * *

§1373. Minute clerks and court reporters

A.(1) The presiding judge of each section of the criminal district court for the parish of Orleans may appoint shall be appointed a minute clerk at an annual salary of forty-eight hundred dollars, and a court reporter at an annual salary of fifty-four hundred dollars; the by the clerk of court in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 13:1211 and subject to the provisions of that Section. ~~The~~ salaries of the minute clerks and of the court reporters shall be paid by the city of New Orleans.

* * *

§1373.1. Minute clerks, court reporters, and deputy court reporters; salary payable by the state

A. The annual salary of each of the court reporters of Sections A through L, both inclusive, and of the magistrate section of the Criminal District Court for the parish of Orleans to be paid by the state of Louisiana out of the General Fund of the state of Louisiana is hereby fixed at twelve thousand four hundred seventy-eight dollars per annum, payable monthly by the state treasurer upon the warrant of said court reporters and minute clerks shall be paid by the city in the same amount as provided for on July 1, 2026, and commencing on July 1, 2027, any amount previously paid by the state general fund shall be charged to the Consolidated Judicial Expense Fund for Orleans Parish.

B. The annual salary of each of the deputy court reporters in Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L of the Criminal District Court for the parish of Orleans and the deputy court reporter for the magistrate of the said court, to be paid by the state of Louisiana out of the General Fund of the state of Louisiana shall be equal to that of the court reporters as provided in Subsection A of this Section and shall be payable monthly by the state treasurer upon the warrant of the said deputy court reporter.

C. The annual salary of each of the several minute clerks of said court, and the clerk who acts as minute clerk for the judges sitting as a court of appeals to be paid by the state of Louisiana out of the General Fund of the state of Louisiana is hereby fixed at fifteen thousand seven hundred ninety-one dollars per annum, payable monthly by the state treasurer upon the warrant of said minute clerks.

D. The increase in salary provided herein for court reporters, deputy court reporters, and minute clerks, shall not be payable until state funds are made available therefor.

* * *

§1381. Fees

The following charges may be made for the services of the clerk of the criminal district court for the parish of Orleans:

* * *

(21) For making copies of any paper, document, or other proceeding, the original of which is in the custody of the clerk of the criminal district court for the parish of Orleans including certificate and seal thereto, for each one hundred words, sixty cents.

* * *

§1381.3. Clerk of the Criminal District Court expense fund

There is hereby established the Clerk of the Criminal District Court Expense Fund for the parish of Orleans. All funds collected as clerk's fees, interest accrued on investments of funds by the clerk of the Criminal District Court pursuant to R.S. 39:1271 R.S. 33:2955(A)(1), and any funds otherwise generated by the clerk of the Criminal District Court shall be deposited in said fund and may be expended from this fund for purposes of defraying the operating expenses of the clerk's office.

* * *

§1381.5. The Orleans Parish administration of criminal justice fund

A. There is hereby created an Orleans Parish administration of criminal justice fund which shall be maintained and supervised by the criminal sheriff of the parish of Orleans for the purpose of collecting and distributing proceeds received from the annual licensing fee pursuant to R.S. 22:822.

B.

* * *

(2) Each quarterly distribution shall be calculated and allocated as follows:

* * *

(e) Twenty percent of all funds received to the Clerk of the Criminal District Court Expense Fund for the parish of Orleans.

* * *

§1381.7. Clerk of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court

A. The legislature finds that adequate funding of the office of Clerk of the Criminal District Court for the parish of Orleans is necessary for the efficient performance of the powers and duties required of a judicial officer of the state. Pursuant to the exercise of the police power of the state, actions for obtaining adequate funding are necessary to promote judicial efficiency and to protect and promote the lives, health, morals, comfort, and general welfare of people as a whole. The amounts to be appropriated and paid by the city of New Orleans for expenses, including salaries and maintenance of constitutional officers, their deputies, subordinates, and employees shall not be reduced by the city of New Orleans without the consent of the legislature expressed by approval of a proposal by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

* * *

§2515. Application for supervisory writs; stay orders

All applications for supervisory writs of certiorari, prohibition, or

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscoring and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

mandamus to the Criminal District Court for the Parish parish of Orleans from the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans shall be filed with the clerk of the Criminal District Court for the Parish parish of Orleans, and shall be by him allotted to the criminal court of appeals panel then sitting to hear appeals within that court under its rules, in connection with cases not appealable to the Supreme Court of Louisiana. No stay order shall be binding on the lower court unless at least two of such judges shall order such stay. The application for writs shall follow the general form and shall contain all documents and exhibits now required by Rule X of Rules of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, or as may be hereafter required under Rule X.

§5971. Applicability
The judicial administrative districts authorized by this Chapter shall provide an optional and additional method of funding the office of the clerk for the Criminal District Court for the parish of Orleans, the office of the clerk of court for the Civil District Court for the parish of Orleans, and the office of the clerk of district court for each of the other parishes.

Section 2. R.S. 15:85.1(A)(2)(d) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§85.1. Posting of criminal bond; fee assessed
A.(1)

(2) The proceeds from cases in which the criminal prosecution has been concluded shall be distributed on a quarterly basis as follows:

(d) Two dollars shall be remitted to the office of the clerk of court for the parish, except in the parish of Orleans where two dollars shall be remitted to the office of the clerk of the criminal district court, or to the office of the city or municipal clerk of court in cases where the municipality is responsible for the prosecution.

Section 3. R.S. 18:2(3), 444(E), 602(C)(1) and (E)(2)(c), 1300.7(B), 1354(A)(1), 1511.2(E), and 1511.3(A)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2. Definitions
As used in this Code, the following words and terms shall have the meanings hereinafter ascribed to each, unless the context clearly indicates another meaning:

(3) “Clerk of court” or “clerk” means the clerk of the district court, except that in any parish having a civil district court and a criminal district court, these terms mean the clerk of the criminal district court.

§444. Parish executive committees

E. Powers of the committee. The parish executive committee of a recognized political party may adopt rules and regulations for its government that are not inconsistent with the laws of this state or the rules and regulations of the state central committee, and it may create any committee it deems necessary. The rules and regulations of the parish executive committee of a recognized political party shall be filed with the clerk of court within ten days after their adoption. In parishes which have a civil and a criminal district court, the rules and regulations of a parish executive committee shall be filed with the clerk of the criminal district court.

§602. Vacancies in certain local and municipal offices; exceptions

C.(1) When a vacancy occurs in any of the following offices, the duties of the office shall be assumed by the person hereinafter designated: (a) district attorney, by the first assistant; (b) clerk of a district court, by the chief deputy; (c) coroner, by the chief deputy; (d) sheriff, by the chief criminal deputy, except that in a parish that has both a civil sheriff and a criminal sheriff, the civil sheriff by the chief civil deputy, and the criminal sheriff, by the chief criminal deputy, respectively; and (e) tax assessor, by the chief deputy assessor.

E.(1)(a)

(2)(a)

(c) Within twenty-four hours after issuing the proclamation, the authority or authorities ordering the special election shall send a copy of the proclamation, by certified or registered mail, to the clerk of the district court for the parish in which the vacancy occurred. If the vacancy occurred in the parish of Orleans, the copy of the proclamation shall be so mailed to the clerk of the criminal district court. If the vacancy occurs in an office which affects more than one parish, a copy of the proclamation shall at the same time be so mailed to the clerk of each of the parishes. A copy of the proclamation also shall be mailed to the secretary of state at the same time and in the same manner.

§1300.7. Governor to order election; proclamation; publication

B. Within twenty-four hours after issuing the proclamation, the governor shall send a copy of the petition and proclamation, by registered or certified mail, to the clerk of the district court for each parish in which the election

is to be held. If the election is to be held in Orleans Parish, the city of New Orleans, the copy of the petition and proclamation shall be mailed to the clerk of the criminal district court. A copy of the petition and proclamation also shall be sent to the secretary of state. Within twenty-four hours after he receives the copies, the secretary of state shall notify all other election officials having any duty to perform in connection with a recall election, including the parish board of election supervisors for the parish or parishes in which the election is held. Immediately after receipt of the proclamation, the secretary of state shall publish the proclamation in the official journal of each parish in which the election is to be held.

§1354. Parish custodian of voting machines; powers and duties; appointment of deputy custodians

A.(1) The clerk of the district court is ex officio parish custodian of voting machines in each parish, except that in any parish having a civil and a criminal district court the clerk of the criminal district court is ex officio parish custodian of voting machines. The parish custodian of each parish shall assist the secretary of state in the performance of his functions within the parish.

§1511.2. Supervisory committee; rulemaking authority; advisory opinions; inquiries

E. The supervisory committee shall prepare and distribute to the general public through the offices of the clerks of court and in Orleans Parish the office of the clerk of the criminal district court and on its website, booklets of explanation and instruction concerning the provisions of this Chapter in such a manner as to inform the public of the procedures and requirements of this Chapter. The supervisory committee may publish and distribute additional material to assist persons in complying with the provisions of this Chapter.

§1511.3. Filing of reports; forms; notice
A.(1) All reports required by this Chapter shall be filed with the supervisory committee as otherwise provided in this Chapter on forms provided by the supervisory committee. The supervisory committee shall prepare forms for all reports required by this Chapter in conformity with the requirements of this Chapter and shall cause such forms to be printed and sufficient copies thereof furnished to the clerks of court and in Orleans Parish to the clerk of the criminal district court, who shall make them available to all persons required to file reports under the provisions of this Chapter. All forms shall contain instructions directing the person filing with whom to file reports. It is the intent of the legislature that the supervisory committee shall provide forms in a simple format in conformity with the requirements of this Chapter.

Section 4. The provisions of this Act shall not reduce the current term of office of the clerk of criminal district court for the parish of Orleans on the effective date of this Act. The office of clerk of criminal district court for the parish of Orleans shall be abolished at the end of May 3, 2026, and before the term of any other criminal clerk of court begins. Immediately thereafter, the authority, functions, duties, and responsibilities of the office of clerk of criminal district court for the parish of Orleans, and all of the books, papers, records, monies, actions, and other property of every kind and description, movable and immovable, real and personal, possessed, controlled, or used by the office of the clerk of criminal district court for the parish of Orleans shall be transferred and owned, possessed, controlled, and used by the clerk of the civil district court for the parish of Orleans, who shall thereafter be referred to as the clerk of court for the parish of Orleans.

Section 5. Whenever the clerk of the criminal district court for the parish of Orleans is referred to or designated by law, rule, or regulation on and after the date that office is abolished, such reference or designation shall be deemed to apply to the clerk of civil district court for the parish of Orleans or hereafter “clerk of court for the parish of Orleans”.

Section 6. R.S. 13:1031, 1033, 1371, 1371.1, and 1378 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 7. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 16

SENATE BILL NO. 336
BY SENATOR LUNEAU
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 46:438.9 and 438.10, relative to civil actions; to provide relative to the Medical Assistance Programs Integrity Law; to provide relative to civil investigative demand, deposition, and subpoena; to provide with respect to conditions and requirements; to provide relative to contempt of court; to provide for terms and definitions; to provide relative to discovery; to provide with respect to written interrogatories and production and

inspection of documents and things; to provide relative to civil proceedings and legal delays; to provide with respect to civil procedure; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 46:438.9 and 438.10 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§438.9. Civil investigative demand

A.(1) When the attorney general has information, evidence, or reason to believe that a person or an entity may be in possession, custody, or control of any documentary material, information, or physical evidence relevant to an investigation of a violation of Subpart B of Part VI-A of this Chapter, he may issue to the person or entity a civil investigative demand to require answering under oath and in writing any interrogatories or the production for inspection, copying, or reproduction of documentary material, information, or physical evidence before the commencement of a civil proceeding. A civil investigative demand issued pursuant to this Section shall state a general description of the subject matter being investigated. Each investigative demand shall set a return date of not earlier than twenty days after service of the demand upon the person, legal representative, or agent for service of process.

(2) A civil investigative demand for answers to written interrogatories shall set forth with specificity the written interrogatories to be answered. A civil investigative demand for the production of documentary material shall describe each class of documentary material to be produced with definiteness and certainty to permit the material to be fairly identified.

(3) A civil investigative demand may not contain an unreasonable requirement if contained in a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued by a court in a grand jury investigation or require the production of written answers to interrogatories, or the production of documentary material that is privileged from disclosure.

(4) The production of documentary material in response to a civil investigative demand served under this Section shall be made under a sworn certificate stating that all of the documentary material required by the demand and in the possession, custody, or control of the person to whom the demand is directed has been produced and made available to the attorney general. If the demand is made on a natural person, the person to whom the demand is directed shall make the certification. If the demand is on a person other than a natural person, a person having knowledge of the facts and circumstances relating to the production of material and authorized to act on behalf of the person shall make the certification.

B. A civil investigative demand issued pursuant to this Section may be served by the sheriff or a post-certified investigator employed by the attorney general when the demand is issued to a resident or domestic business entity found in this state. A civil investigative demand issued to a nonresident or a foreign business entity shall be served as provided for in the Code of Civil Procedure.

C. Upon failure of the person or business entity to comply with the civil investigative demand, the attorney general may file a motion with a district court of proper jurisdiction to compel compliance with the civil investigative demand. Failure to comply with a court order shall be punishable by contempt of court.

D. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, no documentary material, answers to interrogatories, or copies of material or interrogatories, produced pursuant to this Section or information derived therefrom, or transcripts and information derived from investigative depositions conducted pursuant to R.S. 46:438.10 shall be subject to disclosure, discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion for release by any person or entity except as determined by the attorney general and subject to the imposition of any conditions for effective enforcement of the laws of this state.

E. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit or limit the attorney general from sharing any documentary material, answers to interrogatories, or copies, or information derived therefrom, or transcripts and information derived from investigative depositions conducted pursuant to R.S. 46:438.10 with any other state government, the United States government, or any state or federal agency, or any person or entity that assists in the investigation or prosecution involved in the subject matter of the civil investigative demand.

F. The attorney general may use documentary material derived from information obtained pursuant to this Section, or copies of the material, in the manner the attorney general determines necessary for the enforcement of the laws of this state, including instituting a civil proceeding with the court.

G. The attorney general, upon the written request of a person or entity required to produce documentary material pursuant to this Section, shall destroy or return to the person or entity any material which has not become a part of the record by introduction into evidence in any court, grand jury, or agency proceeding if the case or proceeding has been completed, or proceedings have not been instituted within a reasonable time after analysis of all documentary material and other information produced in the course of the investigation.

H. Documentary material, answers to written interrogatories, or oral testimony provided pursuant to a civil investigative demand or investigative deposition are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, R.S. 44:1 et seq.

I. "Documentary material" as used in this Section includes but is not limited to all electronically stored information including writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, sound recordings, images, and other data or data compilations that are subject to a request for production under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34.

J. A person who has received a civil investigative demand pursuant to Subsection A of this Section may seek to modify or set aside the demand by filing a petition through ordinary proceedings with the court in the judicial district within which the person resides, is found, or transacts business. If no such

jurisdiction exists, the person may file the petition in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court.

(1) A petition filed pursuant to this Subsection shall be filed within twenty days after the date of service of the civil investigative demand authorized in accordance with this Section, or at any time before the return date specified in the demand, whichever date is earlier.

(2) The petition shall specify each ground upon which the petitioner is seeking relief in accordance with Subsection A of this Section, and may be based upon any failure of the demand to comply with the provisions of this Section or upon any constitutional or other legal right or privilege of the person.

(3) During the pendency of proceedings, the court in its discretion may stay the running of the time allowed for compliance with the demand, in whole or in part, except that the person filing the petition shall comply with any portions of the demand not sought to be modified or set aside.

§438.10. Investigative deposition

A.(1) When the attorney general has information, evidence, or reason to believe that a person or entity has information related to an investigation of a violation of Subpart B of Part VI-A of this Chapter, he may issue an investigative subpoena for deposition testimony to any person or entity that may have information or knowledge relevant to the matter under investigation, or for the purpose of revealing, identifying, or explaining documentary material or other physical evidence sought.

(2) The investigative subpoena shall contain a general description of the matter under investigation, and a notice informing the deponent of his right to counsel at the deposition with an opportunity for cross-examination. The deposition shall be conducted at the deponent's principal place of business, place of residence, domicile, or, if agreeable to the deponent, some other place convenient to the attorney general or the deponent and the deponent's attorney or designated lawful representative.

(3) The deposition shall be held on a date not earlier than seven days after the date on which demand was received, unless the attorney general determines that exceptional circumstances exist that warrant the commencement of the testimony within a shorter period of time.

B. An investigative subpoena issued pursuant to this Section may be served by the sheriff or a post-certified investigator employed by the attorney general when the demand is issued to a resident or domestic business entity found in this state. An investigative subpoena issued to a nonresident or a foreign business entity may be served pursuant to the Code of Civil Procedure.

C. When an investigative subpoena is issued to a business entity, the entity shall designate one or more officers, directors, or managing agents, and may set forth, for each person designated, the matters on which he is to testify. The person designated shall testify to the matters known or reasonably available to the organization.

D. Upon failure of the person or business entity to comply with the investigative subpoena, the attorney general may file a motion with a district court of proper jurisdiction to compel compliance with the investigative subpoena. Failure to comply with a court order is punishable by contempt of court.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 17

SENATE BILL NO. 350
BY SENATOR CATHEY

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:3552(A), relative to the Louisiana Soybean and Grain Research and Promotion Board; to change a reference to the Louisiana Soybean Association; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:3552(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §3552. Louisiana Soybean and Grain Research and Promotion Board; creation and organization

A. The Louisiana Soybean and Grain Research and Promotion Board is created with its domicile at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The board shall be composed of twelve producer members to be appointed by the governor to serve terms concurrent with the governor. Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation. Eight members of the board shall be practical producers of soybeans in the state of Louisiana and four members shall be practical producers of wheat, corn, or grain sorghum. The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., shall submit the names of eight practical soybean producers to the governor, and he shall appoint five persons from the nominees to serve on the board. The Louisiana Soybean Cotton and Grain Association shall submit the names of five practical soybean producers to the governor, and he shall appoint three members from the nominees to serve on the board. The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., shall submit the names of three persons who produce wheat, corn, or grain sorghum to the governor and he shall appoint two persons from these nominees to serve on the board. The Louisiana Cotton and Grain Association shall submit the names of three persons who produce wheat, corn, or grain sorghum to the governor and he shall appoint two persons from these nominees to serve on the board. Every fourth year the aforementioned organizations shall submit the names of nominees to the governor and succeeding boards shall be appointed by the governor in the same manner, giving equal representation to each

organization in the appointment of the eight members who are practical soybean producers.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 18

SENATE BILL NO. 383
BY SENATOR BASS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 23:1514(B), (C)(1)(a), and (D)(4) and (11), 1536(E)(3), and 1553(B)(8) and (10), relative to the Incumbent Worker Training Program; to provide relative to the Incumbent Worker Training Account; to provide for the training of incumbent workers; to provide relative to eligibility requirements for businesses; to provide relative to customized training; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 23:1514(B), (C)(1)(a), and (D)(4) and (11), 1536(E)(3), and 1553(B)(8) and (10) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§1514. Worker training fund; purpose; training programs; eligibility criteria; program administration

B. Incumbent Worker Training Account funds shall be used only for the following types of training:
(1) Customized training. Designed to meet the ~~special need and specific skill, technology, or operational needs and~~ requirements of business and industry, ~~including a small business employer or group of small business employers.~~ customized **Customized** training programs may include specialized, ~~employer-specific~~ curriculums, instructional materials, training delivery methods, ~~on-site or employer-directed training, innovative training projects, and training locations. Customized training may also include standardized courses.~~ **Customized training shall address workforce challenges of the employer and be for workforce needs such as process improvements, new equipment, or technology adoption. The administrator shall define “customized training” through rulemaking consistent with this Section.**
(2) Small business employee training. This type of training is ~~may be~~ individual standardized (off-the-shelf) training, **customized training, or college or university noncredit courses** and shall be available to businesses having fifty or fewer employees.
(3) Preemployment training. This type of training shall be provided for nonincumbent workers for ~~new, existing, and~~ expanding businesses. This training may include screening, skills assessment, testing, remediation, and occupational and technical training.
(4) **Work-based learning. This type of training shall be provided for apprenticeship and internship programs.**
C. An applicant is eligible to participate in the Incumbent Worker Training Program if it meets the following criteria:
(1) Is an individual employer or a consortium made up of two or more eligible employers that meets all of the following requirements:
(a) Has been operating in Louisiana ~~this state for not less than three years a minimum of two years, unless otherwise exempted by the secretary of Louisiana Works or his designee.~~

D.(1)
(4)(a) No more than ten percent of such amounts appropriated to the fund by the state legislature shall be used for the payment of expenses incurred for the administration of this account.
(b) **No more than forty percent of such amounts appropriated to the fund by the state legislature shall be used for sector-based training, regional workforce initiatives, or innovation or pilot projects addressing high-demand or shortage occupations.**

(11) The administrator shall administer the account and shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act for the administration of this Section, including the procedures for applying for funds, distribution of funds, monitoring of and auditing of training conducted with funds, reimbursement of costs, ~~the definition and implementation of “customized training”,~~ and any additional requirements he deems appropriate and necessary to carry out the provisions of this Section.

§1536. Determination of rate; ratio of reserves to payroll as a basis
E.(1)
(3) If, at the computation date in any year, the fund balance, including all monies in the benefit transfer account, exceeds one billion ~~four~~ **one** hundred ~~fifty~~ million dollars, a ten percent reduction in contributions due under the rate table provided in Subsection D of this Section shall be granted to each employer with a positive reserve ratio.

§1553. Noncharging of benefits; recoupment; social charge account; social
THE ADVOCATE
PAGE 16

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

charge tax rate
B.(1)
(8) Amounts not to exceed twenty million dollars to be credited to the Incumbent Worker Training Account to fund the Incumbent Worker Training Program as provided under R.S. 23:1514 shall be charged to this account only in any calendar year in which the applied trust fund balance range as defined in R.S. 23:1474 is equal to or greater than seven hundred fifty million dollars, but less than one billion ~~two~~ **one** hundred fifty million dollars and only in the amount necessary to bring the balance of unobligated funds in such subaccount to twenty million dollars.

(10) Amounts not to exceed thirty-five million dollars to be credited to the Incumbent Worker Training Account to fund the Incumbent Worker Training Program as provided under R.S. 23:1514 shall be charged to this account only in any calendar year in which the applied trust fund balance range as defined in R.S. 23:1474 is equal to or greater than one billion ~~two~~ **one** hundred fifty million dollars and only in the amount necessary to bring the balance of unobligated funds in such subaccount to thirty-five million dollars.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 19

HOUSE BILL NO. 8
BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 11:186(B), relative to legislative staff attendance at executive sessions of meetings of any state or statewide retirement system board or committee; to provide relative to authorization to attend executive sessions; to provide for restrictions; and to provide for related matters.
Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 11:186(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§186. Authorization for staff to attend executive sessions

B.(1) An authorization made pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be made in writing, specifically name the legislative staff member or members authorized to attend such executive sessions, and be submitted to the director of the state or statewide retirement system board whose executive sessions staff shall be authorized to attend. Such authorization shall be valid for ~~one calendar year~~ **four calendar years** from the date of submission, unless modified or revoked as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection.
(2) The chairman of the House Committee on Retirement and the chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement are authorized to revoke or modify any written authorization made pursuant to this Section at any time by providing written notice to the director of the affected board. A revocation shall immediately terminate the authorization made pursuant to this Section. A modification shall act as a new written authorization and shall be valid for ~~one calendar year~~ **four calendar years** from the date submitted.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 20

HOUSE BILL NO. 13
BY REPRESENTATIVES MCMAKIN, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, WILFORD
CARTER, ILLG, JACOB LANDRY, OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, AND
THOMPSON
AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 11:102(B)(3)(c) and (F) and 1332.1(B)(1)(b) and (d), relative to the Louisiana State Police Retirement System; to provide relative to employer contributions; to provide for determination of the employer contribution rate; to provide relative to amortization periods for certain changes, gains, and losses; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 11:102(B)(3)(c) and (F) and 1332.1(B)(1)(b) and (d) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§102. Employer contributions; determination; state systems
B.
(3) With respect to each state public retirement system, the actuarially

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

required employer contribution for each fiscal year, commencing with Fiscal Year 1989-1990, shall be that dollar amount equal to the sum of:

* * *

(c) Except as provided in R.S. 11:102.1 and 102.2 and Paragraph (F)(2) of this Section, that fiscal year's payment, computed as of the first of that fiscal year and projected to the middle of that fiscal year at the actuarially assumed interest rate, necessary to amortize the prior year's over or underpayment as a level dollar amount over a period of five years.

* * *

F.(1)(a) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and in R.S. 11:102.5, effective July 1, 2009, and beginning with Fiscal Year 1992-1993, the amortization period for the changes, gains, or losses of the Louisiana State Police Retirement System provided in Items (B)(3)(d)(i) through (iv) of this Section shall be thirty years from the year in which the change, gain, or loss occurred. The outstanding balances of amortization bases established pursuant to Items (B)(3)(d)(i) through (iv) of this Section before Fiscal Year 2008-2009 shall be amortized as a level-dollar amount from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2029. Beginning with Fiscal Year 2008-2009, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the outstanding balances of amortization bases established pursuant to Items (B)(3)(d)(i) through (iv) of this Section shall be amortized as a level-dollar amount.

(b) All outstanding amortization bases in existence on June 30, 2029, including balances established pursuant to Subparagraph (B)(3)(c) of this Section, shall be consolidated and reamortized over the period ending June 30, 2049, with level-dollar payments, beginning July 1, 2029. Amortization bases established after June 30, 2029, shall be amortized as provided in Subparagraph (2)(b) of this Subsection.

(2)(a)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, effective for the June thirtieth valuation following the fiscal year in which the system first attains a funded percentage of seventy or more pursuant to R.S. 11:1332 and for every year thereafter, the amortization period for the changes, gains, or losses of the system provided in Items (B)(3)(d)(i) through (iv) of this Section occurring in that year or thereafter shall be twenty years from the year in which the change, gain, or loss occurred.

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (B)(3)(c) of this Section to the contrary, the amortization period for the prior year's over or under payment for the June 30, 2027, 2028, and 2029, valuations shall be twenty years.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection or Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph to the contrary, the amortization period for the changes, gains, or losses of the system provided in Subparagraphs (B)(3)(c) and (d) of this Section with payments beginning July 1, 2030, or thereafter shall be fifteen years from the year in which the change, gain, or loss occurred.

(3) Effective for the first system valuation following June 30, 2015, in which an allocation is made to the system's experience account and for each valuation thereafter, actuarial gains allocated to the experience account shall be amortized as a loss with level payments over a ten-year period.

(4) In addition to the actuarially required employer contribution rate determined pursuant to Subsection B of this Section, the legislature shall set the permanent benefit increase account funding contribution rate as provided in this Paragraph.

(a) Effective July 1, 2023, the rate provided for in this Paragraph, referred to in this Subsection as the "AFC rate", shall be zero.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section to the contrary, effective for the June 30, 2023, system valuation and beginning July 1, 2024, for any fiscal year in which the projected aggregate employer contribution rate decreases, the AFC rate shall increase by the lesser of one-half of the amount of the decrease in the projected aggregate employer contribution rate determined under this Section or the amount necessary for the AFC rate to equal two and one-half percent. Any increase in the AFC rate shall be permanent. The AFC rate shall not exceed two and one-half percent.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the contributions required by this Paragraph shall not be considered actuarially required contributions for the purposes of Paragraph (B)(3) of this Section or Article X, Section 29(E) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section to the contrary, beginning with Fiscal Year 2027-2028, the required employer contribution rate for a given year shall not be less than the projected employer normal cost divided by the projected payroll of the active members of the system for the fiscal year plus the AFC rate for that year.

* * *

§1332.1. Permanent benefit increase funding account

* * *

B.(1) The PBI account shall be credited as follows:

* * *

(b) To the extent permitted by Subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph, all employer contributions paid pursuant to ~~R.S. 11:102(F)(4)~~ R.S. 11:102(F)(3).

* * *

(d) In no event shall a credit be made to the PBI account that would cause the balance in the account to exceed the reserve necessary to grant two permanent benefit increases of two percent and two supplemental permanent benefit increases of two percent in accordance with the provisions of this Section. Any contributions received from payment of the account funding contribution rate in compliance with ~~R.S. 11:102(F)(4)~~ R.S. 11:102(F)(3) that would cause the account balance to exceed this reserve if deposited in the account shall be applied as provided in R.S. 11:102.4.

* * *

Section 2. The cost of this Act, if any, shall be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with Article X, Section 29(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 21

**HOUSE BILL NO. 15
BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT
AN ACT**

To enact R.S. 11:1473, relative to the Assessors' Retirement Fund; to provide relative to correction of administrative errors; to provide for calculation of interest; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters. Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1473 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1473. Correction of administrative error

A. When an administrative error results in the overpayment or underpayment of benefits, the board of trustees shall adjust the amount payable to the correct amount and take all other actions necessary to correct the error.

B.(1) If an underpayment of benefits is due to an administrative error committed by any person paid by the system to make the calculation, the correction of such error pursuant to Subsection A of this Section shall include the payment of interest at the system's valuation interest rate.

(2) If an overpayment of benefits occurs, the board shall recover the overpayment within a reasonable number of months as determined by the board of trustees. The board may reduce the corrected amount of the benefit to recover the overpayment. The board shall notify the benefit recipient of the overpayment, the amount owed, and the amount and duration of the reduction in the benefits at least thirty days before the payment of the benefit subject to the reduction.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 22

**HOUSE BILL NO. 18
BY REPRESENTATIVES ILLG AND TAYLOR AND SENATOR TALBOT
AN ACT**

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1651(C) and (D) and to enact R.S. 11:1651(E), relative to the District Attorneys' Retirement System; to provide relative to the board of trustees; to provide for the election of trustees; to provide for terms of office; to provide for vacancies; and to provide for related matters. Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1651(C) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:1651(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1651. Board of trustees; membership; elections; vacancies; compensation

* * *

C.(1) The terms of the trustee serving as the retired assistant district attorney and the trustee assigned to Division B as of January 1, 2026, shall expire on August 14, 2027, and their successors shall be elected for a term of five years commencing August 15, 2027.

(2) The terms of the trustees assigned to Division C and Division D as of January 1, 2026, shall expire on August 14, 2029, and their successors shall be elected for a term of five years, commencing on August 15, 2029.(3) The terms of the trustees assigned to Division A and Division E as of January 1, 2026, shall expire on August 14, 2030, and their successors shall be elected for a term of five years, commencing on August 15, 2030.

(4) The terms of the trustee serving as the retired district attorney and the trustee assigned to Division F as of January 1, 2026, shall expire on August 14, 2031, and their successors shall be elected for a term of five years, commencing on August 15, 2031.

D.(1) If a vacancy occurs in the office of a trustee, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, if a

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscoring and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

vacancy occurs in the office of an elected trustee and the unexpired term is less than two years, the board shall fill the vacancy by appointment within ninety days, for the remainder of the unexpired term.

~~D. E.~~ The trustees shall receive for attendance at meetings of the board a per diem of seventy-five dollars per day plus the normal expense allowance allowed state employees by the division of administration, provided funds are available for this purpose.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 23

HOUSE BILL NO. 19
BY REPRESENTATIVES ILLG AND TAYLOR AND SENATOR TALBOT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1634(B)(introductory paragraph) and to repeal R.S. 11:1581(13), relative to the District Attorneys’ Retirement System; to provide relative to the powers, duties, and authority of the board of trustees; to provide relative to the authority of the board with respect to disability retirement; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1634(B)(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§1634. Disability retirement

* * *
B. The board of trustees shall award disability benefits to eligible members who have been officially certified as having a disability by the State Medical Disability Board physician designated by the board of trustees. Upon retirement caused by disability, the disability benefit shall be determined as provided in Paragraph (1) or Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, whichever is less:

* * *
Section 2. R.S. 11:1581(13) is hereby repealed in its entirety.
Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 24

HOUSE BILL NO. 25
BY REPRESENTATIVE SPELL
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:784(A) and (C)(2), relative to the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide relative to compliance with amendments to the Internal Revenue Code; to provide relative to the commencement of benefit payments; to provide relative to certain elections by a surviving spouse; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:784(A) and (C)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§784. Payment of benefits

A. The retirement system shall pay all benefits in accordance with a good faith interpretation of the requirements of Section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and related federal regulations, as applicable to a governmental plan within the meaning of Section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. The payment of benefits to or on behalf of a member shall commence not later than April first following the calendar year in which the member retires, or ~~attains age seventy and one-half years~~ the member’s required beginning date, whichever is later. For the purposes of this Section, “required beginning date” shall have the meaning set forth in Section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code.

C.

* * *
(2) Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply to any portion of a member’s benefit which is payable to or for the benefit of a designated beneficiary or beneficiaries, over the life of or over the life expectancy of such beneficiary, so long as such distributions begin not later than December thirty-first of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year of the member’s death, or, in the case of the member’s surviving spouse, December thirty-first of the calendar year in which the member would have ~~attained the age of seventy and one-half years~~ reached his required beginning date, or April first following the calendar year in which the surviving spouse reaches the spouse’s required beginning date if the surviving spouse submits to the retirement system at least thirty days prior to any required distributions, or the deadline provided by federal law or regulation, an acceptable election,

as provided by the system, to be treated as a member for this purpose. If the designated beneficiary is the member’s surviving spouse and if the surviving spouse dies before the distribution of benefits commences, then Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall be applied as if the surviving spouse were the member. If the designated beneficiary is a child of the member, for purposes of satisfying the requirement of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, any amount paid to such child shall be treated as if paid to the member’s surviving spouse if such amount would become payable to such surviving spouse, if alive, upon the child’s reaching age eighteen or, if later, upon the child’s completing a designated event. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a designated event shall be the later of the date the child no longer has a disability or the date the child ceases to be a full-time student, or attains age twenty-three, if earlier.

* * *
Section 2. The cost of this Act, if any, shall be funded with additional employer contributions in compliance with Article X, Section 29(F) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 25

HOUSE BILL NO. 32
BY REPRESENTATIVE EGAN
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:224, 403(15), 405, 407, 444(A)(1)(a)(i) and (2)(b)(i) (bb) and (C)(introductory paragraph), and 446(F), relative to the Louisiana State Employees’ Retirement System; to provide relative to restoration to active service of a disability retiree; to provide for definitions; to provide relative to exemption of certain benefits from execution; to provide relative to the correction of administrative errors; to provide relative to the computation and payment of benefits; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:224, 403(15), 405, 407, 444(A)(1)(a)(i) and (2)(b)(i)(bb) and (C) (introductory paragraph), and 446(F) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§224. Restoration to active service
If any disability retiree of a state or statewide retirement system who is under the age of ~~sixty years~~ for regular retirement is restored to active service, his retirement allowance shall cease, he shall again become a member of the retirement system, and he shall contribute thereafter at the current rate in effect at the time he is restored to service, and if he contributes for at least three years, the period of time on disability shall be counted as accredited service for purposes of establishing retirement eligibility, but not for computation of benefits. Any prior service certificate on which his service was computed at the time of his retirement shall be restored to full force and effect and, in addition, upon his subsequent retirement he shall be credited with all his service as a member. This Section shall apply to all disability retirees, regardless of the date they qualified for a disability retirement benefit.

* * *
§403. Definitions

The following words and phrases used in this Chapter shall have the following meanings, unless a different meaning is clearly required by the context:

* * *
(15) “Job appointment” means ~~employment for a fixed period not to exceed two years; a temporary appointment of an employee to fill a position for a period of time as set forth in rules adopted by the State Civil Service Commission.~~

* * *
§405. Exemption from execution; exception

Any annuity, retirement allowance or benefit, or refund of contributions, or any optional benefit or any other benefit paid or paid to any person under the provisions of this Chapter is exempt from any state or municipal tax and is exempt from levy and sale, garnishment, attachment, or any other process whatsoever, except as provided in R.S. 11:292 and 293, and is unassignable.

* * *
§407. Correction of administrative error

Except as expressly provided otherwise in this Chapter, the director may, upon written documentation that an administrative error has occurred in the administration of this system, which documentation shall be submitted to the board of trustees ~~at the next board meeting~~, whether such administrative error was committed by this system or otherwise, correct such administrative error and may make all adjustments relative to such correction.

* * *
§444. Computation of retirement benefit

A.(1)(a)(i) A member who retires effective on or after July 1, 1973, shall receive a maximum retirement allowance equal to two and one-half percent of average compensation, ~~as determined under R.S. 11:231 pursuant to R.S.~~

11:403, for every year of creditable service, plus three hundred dollars.

(2) * * *
* * *
(b) Peace officers, as defined by R.S. 40:2402(3)(a), employed by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police, other than state troopers, whose first employment making them eligible for membership in one of the state systems occurred on or before December 31, 2010, shall receive a maximum retirement allowance in accordance with the following:

(i) * * *
(bb) Any person employed as a peace officer by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections as determined under R.S. 11:231, on or before June 30, 2006, who was participating in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan on June 30, 2007, or who had continued in employment as of such date after completion of plan participation shall have his base benefit recalculated to reflect the increase in benefits provided pursuant to Subitem (aa) of this Item. The balance in his plan account and any subsequent contributions to such account shall be increased to reflect such benefit increase.

C. The retirement benefit of any member of this system who is not a qualified participant, as defined in Paragraph (B)(2) of this Section, when expressed as an annual benefit may not exceed the lesser of either the annual benefit authorized by Section 415(d) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or one hundred percent of such member's average compensation for his highest three years or five years as provided in R.S. 11:403. For purposes of determining whether a member's benefit exceeds the limitations of this Subsection, the following shall apply:

§446. Mode of payment where option elected

F. If the member is married, the designated beneficiary for a qualified joint and survivor annuity and any Deferred Retirement Option Plan benefits payable in accordance with law shall be his spouse, unless such spouse has consented to the contrary in writing before a notary public, or such spouse cannot be located and the member submits an original affidavit signed by him before a notary public which evidences good faith efforts to locate the spouse. If the member does not select a joint and survivor annuity option and fails to provide such a spousal consent at the time of his retirement, then for the purposes of a retirement benefit option the system shall establish the benefit as if the member had selected the Option 3 joint and survivor annuity as provided in Paragraph (A)(3) of this Section. For purposes of this Paragraph Subsection, "spouse" shall mean that person who is married to the member under a legal regime of community of acquets and gains on his effective date of retirement or effective date of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan, whichever is earlier.

Section 2. Any cost of this Act shall be funded by additional employer contributions in compliance with article X, Section 29 (F) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effect of July 1, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 26

HOUSE BILL NO. 57
BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 46:2135(A)(introductory paragraph), (B), and (D), relative to temporary restraining orders; to permit the consideration of certain evidence; to provide an opportunity to respond; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 46:2135(A)(introductory paragraph), (B), and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2135. Temporary restraining order
A. Upon good cause shown in an ex parte proceeding, the court may enter a temporary restraining order, without bond, as it deems necessary to protect from abuse the petitioner, any minor children, or any person alleged to be an incompetent. Any person who shows immediate and present danger of abuse shall constitute good cause for purposes of this Subsection. The court shall consider any and all past history of abuse, or threats thereof, in determining the existence of an immediate and present danger of abuse. There is no requirement that the abuse itself be recent, immediate, or present. The court, on its own motion, may also obtain and consider any and all past criminal history of the parties. The order may include but is not limited to the following:

B. If a temporary restraining order is granted without notice, the matter

shall be set within twenty-one days for a rule to show cause why the protective order should not be issued, at which time the petitioner must prove the allegations of abuse by a preponderance of the evidence. If any criminal history has been considered, the affected party shall be given the opportunity to rebut and to respond to the evidence used in the underlying proceeding. The defendant shall be given notice of the temporary restraining order and the hearing on the rule to show cause by service of process as required by law within twenty-four hours of the issuance of the order.

D. If no temporary restraining order has been granted, the court shall issue a rule to show cause why the protective order should not be issued, and set the rule for hearing on the earliest day that the business of the court will permit, but in any case within ten days from the date of service of the petition, at which time the petitioner must prove the allegations of abuse by a preponderance of the evidence. If any criminal history has been considered, the affected party shall be given the opportunity to rebut and to respond to the evidence used in the underlying proceeding. The defendant shall be given notice by service of process as required by law.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 27

HOUSE BILL NO. 110
BY REPRESENTATIVE CARVER
AN ACT

To authorize and provide for the transfer of certain state property; to authorize the transfer of certain state property in St. Tammany Parish; to provide for the property description; to provide for the reservation of mineral rights; to provide terms and conditions; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, is hereby authorized and empowered to convey, transfer, assign, lease or deliver any interest, excluding mineral rights, the state may have to all or any portion of the following described parcel of property to the city of Mandeville:

Lot 67 Lakewood Heights CB 1478 246 CB 1511 804 IN, Tax District 14, Subdivision Phase 1.

Section 2. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, covenants, conditions, and stipulations and to execute such documents as necessary to properly effectuate any conveyance, transfer, assignment, lease or delivery of title, excluding mineral rights, to the property described in Section 1 of this Act, and as more specifically described in any such agreements entered into and documents executed by and between the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development and the city of Mandeville, in exchange for consideration proportionate to the appraised value of the property.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 28

HOUSE BILL NO. 111
BY REPRESENTATIVES MANDIE LANDRY, BOYD, BRASS, CARPENTER, WILFORD CARTER, CHASSION, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, DANA HENRY, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JORDAN, KNOX, LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, AND MOORE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:828(E), relative to diminution of sentence; to provide relative to diminution of sentence for the earning of an associate's degree; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:828(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §828. Classification and treatment programs; qualified sex offender programs; reports; earned credits

E. Offenders who are otherwise eligible ~~under~~ pursuant to this Section who earn a bachelor's or associate's degree from a regionally accredited and a department-approved educational institution while incarcerated shall be eligible to earn an additional ninety days of credit toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 29

HOUSE BILL NO. 147
BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 15:1352(A)(89) and (90), relative to the crime of racketeering; to provide for additional crimes that are elements of racketeering activity; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:1352(A)(89) and (90) are hereby enacted to read as follows: §1352. Definitions

A. As used in this Chapter, “racketeering activity” means committing, attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, or soliciting, coercing, or intimidating another person to commit any crime that is punishable under the following provisions of Title 14 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law, or the Louisiana Securities Law:

* * *

(89) R.S. 14:67.6 (Mail theft)

(90) R.S. 14:67.7 (Theft or unauthorized reproduction of a mail receptacle key or lock)

* * *

Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to renumber the Paragraphs of R.S. 15:1352(A) so as to properly place R.S. 15:1352(A)(89) and (90) as enacted by this Act.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 30

HOUSE BILL NO. 234
BY REPRESENTATIVE FIRMENT
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 49:191(3)(b) and repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(e), relative to the Department of Insurance, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department of Insurance and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence of such statutory entities; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of Insurance and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30, 2026, and all statutory authority therefor is continued in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of Insurance and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2031, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department of Insurance may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act. Section 4. R.S. 49:191(3)(b) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-out period for statutory entities; table of dates

Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

* * *

(3) July 1, 2030:

* * *

(b) The Department of Insurance and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.

Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(e) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 31

HOUSE BILL NO. 634
BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYER
AN ACT

To authorize and provide for the transfer of certain state property; to authorize the transfer of certain state property in St. Martin Parish; to provide for the property descriptions; to provide for the reservation of mineral rights; to provide terms and conditions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The commissioner of administration, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, is hereby authorized and empowered to convey, transfer, assign, lease, or deliver any interest, excluding mineral rights, the state may have to all or any portion of the following described property in St. Martin Parish to the Brownell Land Company, LLC:

Tract 1

Tax Parcel No. 2900001514: 76.00 AC: E/2 of the SE/4 or Lot 7 of SEC. 15, T15S-R13E

Tract 2

Tax Parcel No. 2900001521: 49.40 AC: W/2 of the SW/4 or Lot 2 of SEC. 14, T15S-R13

Section 2. The commissioner of administration is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, covenants, conditions, and stipulations and to execute such documents as necessary to properly effectuate any conveyance, transfer, assignment, lease, or delivery of title, excluding mineral rights, to the property described in Section 1 of this Act, and as more specifically described in any such agreements entered into and documents executed by and between the commissioner of administration and the Brownell Land Company, LLC, in exchange of consideration proportionate to the appraised value of the property. Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 32

HOUSE BILL NO. 739
BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1921(D), 1924(B), 1925(B), 1961, 1962(introductory paragraph), 1963, and 1968 and to enact R.S. 22:1962(G), relative to insurance fraud; to define certain terms; to provide for the investigation of insurance fraud matters; to provide for the powers of the commissioner with respect to insurance fraud; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1921(D), 1924(B), 1925(B), 1961, 1962(introductory paragraph), 1963, and 1968 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 22:1962(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1921. Purpose and powers

* * *

D. If during the course of the investigation, the office of insurance fraud determines that there may be a violation of criminal law, the office shall turn the matter over to the Department of Justice; the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, office of state police; and any other appropriate law enforcement or prosecutorial agency, for further investigation, enforcement, or prosecution. However, with the consent of the law enforcement or prosecutorial agency, the office of insurance fraud may assist the law enforcement or prosecutorial agency in its investigation.

* * *

§1924. Prohibited activities and sanctions

* * *

B. The Unless otherwise provided by law, the criminal provisions of this Section shall be investigated, enforced, or prosecuted only by the proper law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies.

* * *

§1925. Automobile insurance policies

* * *

B. The Unless otherwise provided by law, the criminal provisions of this Section shall be investigated, enforced, or prosecuted only by the proper law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies.

* * *

§1961. Purpose

The purpose of this Part is to regulate the trade practices and affairs of any person engaged in the business of insurance, in accordance with the intent of congress as expressed in Public Law 15-79th Congress*, by defining or providing for the determination of all acts, methods, and practices which

constitute unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts and practices in this state, and to prohibit the same.

§1962. Definitions
~~When used in this Part: For purposes of this Part, the following definitions apply:~~

* * *

G.(1) “Business of insurance” means any of the following:
(a) An action concerning the sale, advertisement, or solicitation of a contract or policy of insurance.
(b) Aiding in the resolution of a claim or benefit under an insurance policy involving an insurer or a person who acts on behalf of an insurer, directly or indirectly, and an insured, claimant, or any person who acts on behalf of an insured or claimant, directly or indirectly.
(2) “Business of insurance” does not mean an attorney actively providing legal services on behalf of a client or a healthcare provider or its representative assisting a patient with a prior authorization or appeal concerning the denial of healthcare services provided by a duly licensed healthcare provider.
§1963. Unfair methods and unfair or deceptive acts and practices prohibited
No person shall engage in this state in any trade practice ~~which is or act affecting the business of insurance as~~ defined in this Part to be an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or practice in the conduct of the business of insurance, including unauthorized insurance as provided in R.S. 22:1902 et seq. or the failure to maintain professional liability insurance, if such coverage is required pursuant to R.S. 22:1570.1.

* * *

§1968. Notice of hearing
A. If the commissioner has reason to believe that any person licensed by the department has been engaged or is engaging in this state in any unfair trade practice as defined in this Code, whether or not defined in this Part, the commissioner shall issue a notice of wrongful conduct to that person in accordance and compliance with R.S. 49:977.3 describing the unfair trade practice and citing the law which is deemed by the commissioner to be violated.
B. If the commissioner has reason to believe that any person not licensed by the department has engaged or is engaging in the business of insurance in this state and committed or is committing any unfair trade practice as defined in this Part, the commissioner may issue a cease and desist order, issue a fine, or take any other action against the person pursuant to R.S. 22:1961 et seq.
C. Any person not licensed by the commissioner who has been aggrieved by any act, cease and desist order, fine, order, or any other action of the commissioner pursuant to R.S. 22:1961 et seq., may appeal in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 22:2191 et seq.
D. The commissioner may promulgate and adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to provide means of electronic delivery of the notice required in this Section.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 33

HOUSE BILL NO. 767
BY REPRESENTATIVE RISER
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 56:268 and 3002(A)(7) and (B)(9), relative to recreational alligator hunting licenses; to provide for recreational alligator harvest lottery; to provide for the fee and dedication to the Conservation Fund; to provide for a recreational license; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 56:268 and 3002(A)(7) and (B)(9) are hereby enacted to read as follows:
§268. Recreational alligator harvest lottery
A. The commission shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations to establish a lottery for the selection and issuance of alligator harvest tags. There shall be a fifty-dollar nonrefundable entry fee for alligator harvest tag lottery applications. Alligator harvest tags may be issued to successful and eligible lottery applicants at no cost.
B. All revenues derived from lottery applications and auction proceeds shall be deposited into the Conservation Fund.

* * *

§3002. Recreational hunting licenses; fees
A. Resident licenses:
(7) Alligator license \$25.00/year
(9) Alligator license \$150.00
Section 2. This Act shall take effect and become operative if and when the

Act which originated as Senate Bill No. 244 of this 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature is enacted and becomes effective.
Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 34

SENATE BILL NO. 340
BY SENATOR CATHEY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1703.1(A), relative to registration for the homestead exemption; to require the assessor in each parish to provide property owners a form for the permanent registration of the homestead exemption; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 47:1703.1(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§1703.1. Permanent registration of homestead exemption; designated parishes
A. The tax assessor ~~of each parish for the parishes of~~ **Acadia, Allen, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, East Baton Rouge, East Carroll, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Franklin, Grant, Iberia, Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, LaSalle, Lincoln, Livingston, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans, Ouachita, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Red River, Richland, Sabine, St. Bernard, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Tensas, Terrebonne, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Washington, Webster, West Baton Rouge, West Carroll, West Feliciana, and Winn** shall provide a form to property owners within the parish for permanent registration for the benefits of the homestead exemption provided for in R.S. 47:1703.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 35

SENATE BILL NO. 349
BY SENATOR CATHEY
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 49:191(3)(b) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(k), relative to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence of such statutory entities; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30, 2026, and all statutory authority therefore is continued in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2031, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department of Agriculture and Forestry may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

Section 4. R.S. 49:191(3)(b) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-out period for statutory entities; table of dates

Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

* * *

(3) July 1, 2030:
* * *

(b) The Department of Agriculture and Forestry and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.

Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(k) is hereby repealed in its entirety.
Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 36

SENATE BILL NO. 475
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Arts. 1201(D), 1672(C), and 3955(D) and to enact Code of Civil Procedure Arts. 1201(E) and (F) and 3955(E) and (F), relative to service of process; to provide with respect to service of citation; to provide relative to payment of fees for service of citation in civil actions; to provide relative to a statement of the initial fees and of additional fees for request for service of citation; to provide relative to civil procedure; to provide relative to legal delays; to provide relative to payment of fees for service of citation in certain circumstances; to provide with respect to involuntary dismissal; to provide for prospective application; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Arts. 1201(D), 1672(C), and 3955(D) are hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Civil Procedure Arts. 1201(E) and (F) and 3955(E) and (F) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 1201. Citation; waiver; delay for service

* * *

D. If not waived, a request for service of citation upon the defendant shall be considered timely if requested on the defendant within the time period provided by this Article **and all fees specified by the clerk of court for service of citation are paid within the times provided by Paragraph E of this Article,** notwithstanding insufficient or erroneous service.

E.(1) Upon receipt of a request for service of citation pursuant to this Article, the clerk of court shall provide to the filing party a confirmation of receipt of the request and a statement of the initial fees for the requested service, which shall be paid within the ninety-day period for requesting service in accordance with Paragraph C of this Article.

(2) If additional fees are owed, the clerk of court shall provide to the filing party a statement of additional fees for the requested service, which shall be paid within the ninety-day period for requesting service in accordance with Paragraph C of this Article or within thirty days from the date of receipt of the statement of additional fees from the clerk of court, whichever period is longer.

F. The provisions of this Article regarding the payment of fees for service of citation shall not apply to litigants permitted to litigate without the payment of costs.

* * *

Art. 1672. Involuntary dismissal

* * *

C. A judgment dismissing an action without prejudice shall be rendered as to a person named as a defendant for whom service has not been requested **or for whom all fees specified by the clerk of court for service of citation have not been paid** within the time times prescribed by Article 1201(€) or 3955 upon the sustaining of a declinatory exception filed by such defendant, or upon contradictory motion of any other party, unless good cause is shown why service could not be requested **or all fees specified by the clerk of court for service of citation were not paid,** in which case the court may order that service be effected **and that a specific amount of fees for service of citation be paid** within a specified time.

* * *

Art. 3955. Service of petition

* * *

D. If not waived, a request for service of citation upon the defendant shall be considered timely if requested on the defendant within the time period provided by this Article **and all fees specified by the clerk of court for service of citation are paid within the times provided by this Article,** notwithstanding insufficient or erroneous service.

E.(1) Upon receipt of a request for service of citation pursuant to this Article, the clerk of court shall provide to the filing party a confirmation of receipt of the request and a statement of the initial fees for the requested service, which shall be paid within the ninety-day period for requesting service in accordance with Paragraph A of this Article.

(2) If additional fees are owed, the clerk of court shall provide to the filing party a statement of additional fees for the requested service, which shall be paid within the ninety-day period for requesting service in accordance with Paragraph A of this Article or within thirty days from the date of receipt of the statement of additional fees from the clerk of court, whichever period is longer.

F. The provisions of this Article regarding the payment of fees for service of citation shall not apply to litigants permitted to litigate without the payment of costs.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall have prospective application only.
Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 37

SENATE BILL NO. 244

BY SENATORS ALLAIN, BARROW, BASS, CARTER, CATHEY,
EDMONDS, FESI, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, KLEINPETER,
LAMBERT, MILLER, MIZELL, MYERS, OWEN, SELDERS AND STINE
AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAYHAM,
BILLINGS, BOYER, BROUSSARD, BUTLER, CARLSON, COATES,
DEVILLIER, EGAN, FISHER, FONTENOT, HORTON, LACOMBE,
MARTINEZ, MCFARLAND, MELERINE, OWEN, RISER, VENTRELLA,
WYBLE AND ZERINGUE

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 56:256, relative to recreational alligator hunting; to provide for a special season; to provide for taking alligators; to provide for possession; to provide for quotas; to provide for season modifications; to provide for residency; to provide for methods of taking; to provide for harvest hours; to provide for licenses; to provide for tags; to provide for prohibitions; to provide for violations; to provide for Louisiana Wildlife Commission authority; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:256 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§256. Recreational alligator harvest; penalties

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 56:8(92), which defines alligators as nongame quadrupeds, the commission may establish a special recreational alligator season, independent of the traditional commercial alligator season set pursuant to this Subpart.

B. The commission may establish the season for the recreational taking or possession of alligators by area within the state. The commission may also establish harvest quotas or tag allotments per area of the state. The commission may extend, curtail, or prohibit the recreational take of alligators in any area of the state.

C. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the commission may prescribe residency requirements, recreational methods of taking alligators and hours within which alligators may be taken, and may except recreationally-harvested alligators from the requirements of R.S. 56:253.

D. Any person taking an alligator recreationally shall possess a valid basic hunting license, a valid alligator hunting license, and recreational harvest tags issued by the department.

E. Recreational taking of alligators under any of the following circumstances is prohibited:

(1) Taking outside of the special season, as designated by the commission.

(2) Taking by a person who is without valid licenses or tags.

(3) Taking by illegal methods.

F. Violation of this Section constitutes a class three violation.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 5, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 38

SENATE BILL NO. 68
BY SENATOR MORRIS
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article V, Section 5(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to jurisdiction of the Louisiana Supreme Court; to provide for disciplinary proceedings over attorneys from other jurisdictions concerning legal services in the state and over related unethical practices; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article V, Section 5(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§5. Supreme Court; Jurisdiction; Rule-Making Power; Assignment of Judges
Section 5.(A)

* * *

(B) Original Jurisdiction. The supreme court has exclusive original jurisdiction of disciplinary proceedings against a member of the bar **and any lawyer who is specially admitted by a court of this state for a particular proceeding, is not admitted in this state and practices law or renders or offers**

to render any legal services in this state, is licensed in another state and owns or operates a law firm within this state, or is not licensed in this state and has supervisory authority over lawyers licensed in this state.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on April 17, 2027, as authorized by law.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment granting the Louisiana Supreme Court the authority to discipline out-of-state attorneys in certain circumstances? (Amends Article V, Section 5(B))

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 39

SENATE BILL NO. 180

BY SENATOR FOIL

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 21(K)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to ad valorem tax exemptions; to provide relative to the ad valorem tax exemption for certain disabled veterans and their surviving spouses; to allow for the transfer of certain exemptions by a surviving spouse; to provide for limitations; to provide for effectiveness; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 21(K)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§21. Other Property Exemptions

Section 21. In addition to the homestead exemption provided for in Section 20 of this Article, the following property and no other shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation:

* * *

(K)(1)(a) In addition to the homestead exemption authorized pursuant to the provisions of Section 20 of this Article, which applies to the first seven thousand five hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of property, the next two thousand five hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a veteran with a service-connected disability rating of fifty percent or more but less than seventy percent by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation. The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran with a service-connected disability rating of fifty percent or more but less than seventy percent by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be eligible for this exemption ~~if the surviving spouse occupies and remains the owner of the property~~, whether or not the exemption was in effect on the property prior to the death of the veteran. If property eligible for the exemption provided for in this Subsubparagraph has an assessed value in excess of ten thousand dollars, ad valorem property taxes shall apply to the assessment in excess of ten thousand dollars.

(b) In addition to the homestead exemption authorized pursuant to the provisions of Section 20 of this Article, which applies to the first seven thousand five hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of property, the next four thousand five hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of property owned and occupied by a veteran with a service-connected disability rating of seventy percent or more but less than one hundred percent by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation. The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran with a service-connected disability rating of seventy percent or more but less than one hundred percent by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be eligible for this exemption ~~if the surviving spouse occupies and remains the owner of the property~~, whether or not the exemption was in effect on the property prior to the death of the veteran. If property eligible for the exemption provided for in this Subsubparagraph has an assessed value in excess of twelve thousand dollars, ad valorem property taxes shall apply to the assessment in excess of twelve thousand dollars.

(c) In addition to the homestead exemption authorized pursuant to the provisions of Section 20 of this Article, which applies to the first seven thousand five hundred dollars of the assessed valuation of property, the remaining assessed valuation of property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a veteran with a service-connected disability rating of one hundred percent unemployability or totally disabled by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation. The surviving spouse of a deceased veteran with a service-connected disability rating of one hundred percent unemployability or totally disabled by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs shall be eligible for this exemption ~~if the surviving spouse occupies and remains~~

~~the owner of the property~~, whether or not the exemption was in effect on the property prior to the death of the veteran.

(d) Once a surviving spouse of a deceased veteran with a service-connected disability is eligible for and has taken the exemption, if the surviving spouse then acquires a different property which qualifies for the homestead exemption, the surviving spouse shall be entitled to a one-time transfer of the exemption to that subsequent homestead, the exemption being limited in value to the amount of the exemption claimed on the prior homestead in the last year for which the exemption was claimed. The assessor may require the submission of certain information concerning the amount of the exemption on the prior homestead for purposes of determining the extent of the exemption available for the subsequent homestead.

* * *

Section 2. Be it further resolved that the provisions of this amendment shall become effective January 1, 2027, and shall apply to all taxable years beginning on January 1, 2027.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2026.

Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to allow the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran with a service-connected disability, who receives the additional property tax exemption, to make a one-time transfer of the additional property tax exemption to a subsequent qualifying property?

(Effective January 1, 2027)

(Amends Article VII, Section 21(K)(1))

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 40

HOUSE BILL NO. 10

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANCE HENRY

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 1:55(E)(1)(j), relative to legal holidays; to establish the Friday of the International Rice Festival as a legal holiday in the parish of Acadia; to authorize the clerk of court in the parish of Acadia to close the office in observance of the legal holiday; to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 1:55(E)(1)(j) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§55. Days of public rest, legal holidays, and half-holidays

* * *

E.(1)

* * *

(j) In addition, in the parish of Acadia, the Friday of the International Rice Festival shall be a legal holiday for the purpose of authorizing the clerk of court in the parish of Acadia to close offices in observance of that day, unless there are functions and duties related to an election that require the office to remain open.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 41

HOUSE BILL NO. 16

BY REPRESENTATIVE ST. BLANC

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:2488.1(A)(2)(c), relative to the City Court of the town of Franklin; to provide relative to the territorial jurisdiction of the court; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:2488.1(A)(2)(c) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2488.1. City Court of Franklin; officials and employees; provisions governing A.

* * *

(2)

* * *

(c) In addition to the area provided in Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Paragraph, the territorial jurisdiction of the court shall extend throughout the portions of Ward Four of St. Mary Parish that extends from the eastern most boundary of Ward Three and is north of La. Hwy. 182 and south of Bayou Teche and continues to the Centerville Bridge Approach Road. In such portions of Ward Four that are outside of the town of Franklin, the court shall have jurisdiction concurrent with the justice of the peace in those cases in

which the justice of the peace would have jurisdiction.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 42

HOUSE BILL NO. 34
BY REPRESENTATIVES WILEY, BRASS, AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 11:2178(C)(3)(c), relative to the Sheriffs’ Pension and Relief Fund; to provide relative to eligibility for an actuarially reduced retirement benefit; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters. Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 11:2178(C)(3)(c) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§2178. Disability benefits; retirement benefits; death benefits

* * *

C.

* * *

(3)

* * *

(c) In the event a member whose first employment making him eligible for membership in the system began on or after January 1, 2012, is eligible for deferred retirement and is over fifty years of age with at least thirty years of creditable service, the member may elect to take, in lieu of deferred retirement, the actuarial equivalent of the benefit due had the member attained age fifty-five. The retirement shall become effective upon receipt of the member’s written application by the board of trustees.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 43

HOUSE BILL NO. 35
BY REPRESENTATIVES WILEY, BRASS, AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:2175.1(A)(3)(b) and to enact R.S. 11:2175.1(A)(3) (c), relative to the Sheriffs’ Pension and Relief Fund; to provide relative to the funding deposit account; to provide relative to the authority of the board of trustees: to provide for additional employer contributions to be credited to the account; and to provide for related matters. Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:2175.1(A)(3)(b) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:2175.1(A)(3)(c) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2175.1. Funding deposit account

A.

* * *

(3)

* * *

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 11:103 and 104, the board of trustees may require a net direct contribution rate of up to three percent more than the rate as provided in R.S. 11:103.

(c) All surplus funds collected for any fiscal year terminating on or after December 31, 2008, in which the board of trustees sets the direct employer contribution rate higher than the minimum recommended rate pursuant to the provisions of Subparagraph (a) or (b) of this Paragraph, shall be credited to the account.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 44

HOUSE BILL NO. 44
BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:2586(C)(9), relative to justice of the peace courts in St. Bernard Parish; to provide relative to jurisdiction and procedures; to provide for jurisdiction over property standards and nuisance violations; to provide relative to summons and subpoenas by constables; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:2586(C)(9) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2586. Jurisdiction and procedure

* * *

C.

* * *

(9) A justice of the peace court in St. Bernard Parish shall have concurrent jurisdiction over property standards and nuisance violations anywhere in the parish in which the court is situated, pursuant to local ordinance. In addition, a constable of a justice of the peace court in St. Bernard Parish may issue summons and serve subpoenas for such violations occurring anywhere within the territorial jurisdiction of the justice of the peace court.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 45

HOUSE BILL NO. 46
BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5554(X), relative to the premium costs of group hospital and health insurance for retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs in DeSoto Parish; to provide for eligibility of premium costs; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5554(X) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5554. Group insurance; kinds; amounts; subrogation

* * *

X.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection D of this Section, the sheriff of DeSoto Parish shall pay out of the sheriff’s general fund the premium costs of group insurance for any retired sheriff and any retired deputy sheriff who retired from the DeSoto Parish Sheriff’s Office as follows:

~~(1) (a) One hundred percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or deputy sheriff retired with thirty years or more of creditable service with the sheriff’s office of DeSoto Parish.~~
~~(2) (b) Seventy-five percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or deputy sheriff retired with twenty-five years of creditable service with the sheriff’s office of DeSoto Parish.~~

~~(3) (c) Fifty percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or deputy sheriff retired with twenty years of creditable service with the sheriff’s office of DeSoto Parish.~~

~~(4) (d) The provisions of Paragraphs Subparagraphs (1) (a) through (3) (c) and this Paragraph of this Subsection Paragraph shall apply only to persons hired by the DeSoto Parish Sheriff’s Office on or after January 1, 2009, and who subsequently retire retired from the DeSoto Parish Sheriff’s Office before January 1, 2026.~~

~~(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection D of this Section, the sheriff of DeSoto Parish shall pay out of the sheriff’s general fund the premium costs of group insurance for any retired sheriff and any retired deputy sheriff who retired from the DeSoto Parish Sheriff’s Office as follows:~~

~~(a) One hundred percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or deputy sheriff retired with twenty years or more of creditable service with the sheriff’s office of DeSoto Parish.~~

~~(b) Fifty percent of the premium costs of group hospital, surgical, medical expense, and dental insurance, and the first ten thousand dollars of life insurance contracted for under the provisions of this Section if the sheriff or deputy sheriff retired with fifteen years or more of creditable service with the sheriff’s office of DeSoto Parish.~~

~~(c) The provisions of Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Paragraph shall apply only to persons hired by the DeSoto Parish Sheriff’s Office on or after January 1, 2009, and who subsequently retire from the DeSoto Parish Sheriff’s Office.~~

~~(5) (3) The provisions of Paragraph (G)(1) of this Section shall apply to all~~

persons hired before January 1, 2009.

* * *
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 46

HOUSE BILL NO. 48
BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:2174(B)(1)(b)(introductory paragraph) and (3)(a) and to enact R.S. 11:2173.1, 2174(B)(6), and 2178(O), relative to the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund; to provide relative to employer responsibilities; to provide relative to membership in the system; to provide relative to the payment of employee and employer contributions; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article X, Section 29(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:2174(B)(1)(b)(introductory paragraph) and (3)(a) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:2173.1, 2174(B)(6), and 2178(O) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2173.1. Employers' responsibilities

Each agency that employs a person who is required to be a member of this fund under the provisions of R.S. 11:2174 or who is a member of this fund pursuant to any other provision of law shall be subject to the laws, requirements, terms, and conditions that apply to any sheriff in the sheriff's capacity as an employer participating in the fund, including the provisions mandating the employer to remit to the fund the amounts required to be deducted from the salaries of the members and the percentage of the total of the participating members' salaries set as an employer contribution rate by the board in accordance with R.S. 11:103 and 2175.1 and the provisions providing penalties for delinquent contributions contained in R.S. 11:2181.

§2174. Remittance of percentage of taxes collected to fund; membership; salary deductions; deficiency in fund; credit

* * *

B. Membership. (1)

* * *

(b) Each deputy, including the criminal and civil deputies of the parish of Orleans, and the criers of the several divisions of the Civil District Court for the parish of Orleans and the Louisiana Supreme Court who, on the date of the filing of the application to become a member, is age eighteen or over shall become a member of this fund, provided that his monthly salary including state supplemental pay is not less than the following:

* * *

(3)(a) The percentage specified in R.S. 11:62(9) of the salaries of all members of the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund shall be deducted and a remittance covering such deductions, together with the percentage determined in accordance with R.S. 11:103 of the total of the participating members' salaries, including for sheriffs the expense allowance provided by law in addition to regular salary, to be paid from the sheriff's general fund or from the appropriate funding source of the employer of the member, shall be made monthly to the treasurer of the board. In the event of the failure of any sheriff or other employer of any member to make such deductions and remittances, the treasurer of the board shall notify the legislative auditor who shall order the depository to withhold payment of the checks of the sheriff's general fund or any available funding source of the employer until the remittance is made.

* * *

(6)(a) Any person who is a crier of the Louisiana Supreme Court on the effective date of this Paragraph, who is not a member of this fund, but who is a member of another Louisiana public retirement system may elect to become a member of this fund by notifying this fund and the other system in writing by September 30, 2026.

(b) Any person who is an employee of the Louisiana Supreme Court and who is not a member of this fund but who is a member of another Louisiana public retirement system covering Louisiana Supreme Court criers on the effective date of this Paragraph who later becomes a crier of the Louisiana Supreme Court may elect to remain a member of the other system by notifying this fund and the other system in writing within thirty days of the person's employment date as a crier.

* * *

§2178. Disability benefits; retirement benefits; death benefits

* * *

O. No one who receives a benefit from this pension fund shall be eligible to receive a benefit under the provisions of R.S. 13:75.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 47

HOUSE BILL NO. 50
BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHLEGEL
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 49:191(3)(b) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(g), relative to the Department of Education, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department of Education and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence of such statutory entities; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of Education and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30, 2026, and all statutory authority therefor is continued in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of Education and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2031, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department of Education may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act. Section 4. R.S. 49:191(3)(b) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-out period for statutory entities; table of dates

Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

* * *

(3) July 1, 2030:

* * *

(b) The Department of Education and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.

* * *

Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(g) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 48

HOUSE BILL NO. 53
BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 15:1352(A)(89) through (95), relative to gambling crimes; to add certain gambling crimes as predicate offenses for racketeering activity; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:1352(A)(89) through (95) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1352. Definitions

A. As used in this Chapter, "racketeering activity" means committing, attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, or soliciting, coercing, or intimidating another person to commit any crime that is punishable under the following provisions of Title 14 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law, or the Louisiana Securities Law:

* * *

- (89) R.S. 14:90 (Gambling)
- (90) R.S. 14:90.2 (Gambling in public)
- (91) R.S. 14:90.3 (Gambling by computer)
- (92) R.S. 14:90.6 (Gambling or wagering at cockfights)
- (93) R.S. 14:90.7 (Gambling by electronic sweepstakes device)
- (94) R.S. 14:90.8 (Unlawful wagering; prohibited player)
- (95) R.S. 14:118.1 (Bribery of sports participants)

* * *

Section 2. The Louisiana Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to renumber the new entries to ensure that the crimes are listed in alphabetical order.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 49

HOUSE BILL NO. 69
BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:334(A), relative to ignition interlock devices; to add a reference to the Code of Criminal Procedure; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:334(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§334. Ignition interlock device offenses

A. ~~No~~ A person who, as a condition of probation ~~or any other provision of law~~, is prohibited from operating a motor vehicle unless it is equipped with an ignition interlock device as provided in R.S. 15:306, Code of Criminal Procedure Article 320(C), ~~or any other provision of law~~, shall not:

(1) Operate, lease, or borrow a motor vehicle unless that vehicle is equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device.

(2) Request or solicit any other person to blow into an ignition interlock device or to start a motor vehicle equipped with the device for the purpose of providing the person so restricted with an operable motor vehicle.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 50

HOUSE BILL NO. 78
BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Article 4843(G), relative to jurisdictional limits of city courts; to provide with respect to the jurisdictional amount in dispute in the City Court of Bogalusa; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Article 4843(G) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 4843. City court jurisdiction; amount in dispute; injunctive actions by state or political subdivision

* * *

G. In the City Court of Alexandria, the City Court of East St. Tammany, the City Court of Bogalusa, the City Court of Hammond, the City Court of Lake Charles, the City Court of Pineville, the City Court of Ruston, the City Court of Sulphur, and the Third Ward City Court of Franklin, the civil jurisdiction is concurrent with the district court in cases where the amount in dispute, or the value of the property involved, does not exceed fifty thousand dollars.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 51

HOUSE BILL NO. 93
BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER
AN ACT

To enact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 404(K), relative to the clerk of court of Lincoln Parish; to provide for the function of the clerk of court of Lincoln Parish; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 404(K) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 404. Appointment of jury commissions; term of office; oath; quorum; performance of functions of jury commissions in certain parishes

* * *

K. In the parish of Lincoln, the function of the jury commission shall be performed by the clerk of court of Lincoln Parish or by a deputy clerk of court designated by the respective clerk in writing to act in his stead in all matters affecting the jury commission. The clerk of court or his designated deputy shall have the same powers, duties, and responsibilities and shall be governed by all applicable provisions of law pertaining to jury commissioners. The clerk of court of Lincoln Parish shall perform the duties and responsibilities otherwise imposed upon him by law with respect to jury venires, coordinate the jury venire process, and receive the compensation generally authorized for a jury commissioner.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 52

HOUSE BILL NO. 117
BY REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 49:191(4) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(c), relative to the Department of State, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department of State and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence of such statutory entities; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of State and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30, 2026, and all statutory authority therefor is continued in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of State and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2033, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department of State may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act. Section 4. R.S. 49:191(4) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-out period for statutory entities; table of dates

Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

* * *

(4) July 1, ~~2025~~ 2032:

(a) The Department of State and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.

* * *

Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(c) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 53

HOUSE BILL NO. 124
BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 46:2146(A)(introductory paragraph) and (1) (introductory paragraph), (h), and (i) and to repeal R.S. 46:2146(A)(1)(p), relative to the Domestic Violence Prevention Commission; to provide for the membership of the commission; to remove a member from the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 46:2146(A)(introductory paragraph) and (1)(introductory paragraph), (h), and (i) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §2146. Composition of the commission

A. The commission shall be composed of ~~twenty~~ nineteen members as follows:

(1) ~~Eighteen~~ Seventeen of the commission members shall be the following:

* * *

(h) One current or former district court judge with experience in criminal law matters, selected by the president of the Louisiana District Court Judges Association. (i) One current or former district court judge with experience in family law matters, selected by the president of the Louisiana District Court Judges Association.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 46:2146(A)(1)(p) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 54

HOUSE BILL NO. 131
BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 930.4(B) and (C)

and to enact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 930.5(C), relative to post-conviction relief; to provide relative to repetitive applications; to provide relative to custody and bail pending retrial; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 930.4(B) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Criminal Procedure Article 930.5(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 930.4. Jurisdictional bars to relief; repetitive applications
* * *
B. If the application alleges a claim of which the petitioner had knowledge and ~~inexcessably~~ failed to raise in the proceedings leading to conviction, the court shall deny relief.
C. If the application alleges a claim which the petitioner raised in the trial court and ~~inexcessably~~ failed to pursue on appeal, the court shall deny relief.

Art. 930.5. Custody pending retrial; bail
* * *

C. The provisions of Paragraph B of this Article do not apply until a judgment granting post-conviction relief becomes final. If relief is granted, the effect of that judgment shall be stayed until either of the following occurs:(1) The time period to invoke the supervisory jurisdiction of the Louisiana Supreme Court has expired.

(2) The Louisiana Supreme Court, after receipt of a timely application, has taken final action on the matter.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 55

HOUSE BILL NO. 135
BY REPRESENTATIVES MANDIE LANDRY AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:3881(A)(introductory paragraph), (7), and (8) and (D)(1) and (3), relative to exemptions from seizure; to provide relative to the exemption for motor vehicles; to provide an exemption for health savings accounts; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:3881(A)(introductory paragraph), (7), and (8) and (D)(1) and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3881. General exemptions from seizure
A. The following income or property of a debtor is exempt from seizure under any writ, mandate, or process whatsoever, except as otherwise ~~herein~~ provided in this Section:

* * *
(7)(a) ~~Seven thousand five hundred~~ Fifteen thousand dollars in equity value for one motor vehicle ~~per household used by the debtor and his family household for any purpose.~~

(b) If Paragraph (8) of this Subsection is not applicable to the debtor as an exemption, and if the debtor is married or has a child in the household who is a licensed driver, a second motor vehicle with an equity value not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars. If Paragraph (8) of this Subsection is applicable to the debtor, then only one motor vehicle is exempt under the provisions of this Paragraph. The debtor shall not have more than two exempt vehicles when applying the exemptions set forth in this Paragraph and Paragraph (8) of this Subsection.

(c) The equity value of the motor vehicle shall be based on the NADA retail value set forth in the JD Power Official Used Car Guide for the particular year, make, and model.

(8) ~~Seven thousand five hundred~~ Twenty thousand dollars in equity value for one motor vehicle per household which vehicle is substantially modified, equipped, or fitted for the purposes of adapting its use to the physical disability of the debtor or his family and is used by the debtor or his family for the transporting of such person with a disability for any use.
* * *

D.(1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and in R.S. 11:292, the following shall be exempt from all liability for any debt except alimony and child support: all pensions, all health savings accounts in which the total value shall not exceed the annual deduction limits for family coverage as set by the Internal Revenue Service for the current calendar year, all tax-deferred arrangements, annuity contracts, and all proceeds of and payments under all tax-deferred arrangements and annuity contracts, as defined in Paragraph (3) of this Subsection.
* * *

(3)(a) The term “tax-deferred arrangement” includes all individual retirement accounts or individual retirement annuities of any variety or name, whether authorized now or in the future in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the corresponding provisions of any future United States income tax law, including balances rolled over from any other tax-deferred arrangement as defined herein, money purchase pension plans, defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, Keogh plans, simplified employee pension (SEP) plans, simple retirement account (SIMPLE) plans, Roth IRAs, or any other plan of any variety or name, whether authorized now or in the future in the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the corresponding provisions of any future United States income tax law, under which United States income tax on the tax-deferred arrangement is deferred. The term “annuity contract” ~~shall have the same definition as defined~~ has the same meaning as provided in R.S. 22:912(B).

(b) The term “health savings account” means accounts for medical expenses authorized by 26 U.S.C. 220 et seq.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 56

HOUSE BILL NO. 148
BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY AND SENATORS BARROW, BARTHELEMY, BASS, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CATHEY, FESI, HARRIS, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, LAMBERT, MIZELL, MYERS, PRESSLY, AND PRICE
AN ACT

To designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 5 in Logansport, Louisiana, DeSoto Parish as the “Eugene Washington Memorial Highway”; to provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The portion of Louisiana Highway 5 between United States Highway 84 and Louisiana Highway 3015 in Logansport, Louisiana, DeSoto Parish shall be known and is hereby designated as the “Eugene Washington Memorial Highway”.

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signage reflecting this designation provided local or private monies are received by the department equal to the department's actual costs for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 57

HOUSE BILL NO. 149
BY REPRESENTATIVES GLORIOSO, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOYD, BRAUD, CARVER, CHASSION, COX, DICKERSON, EGAN, FISHER, FREIBERG, DANA HENRY, LAFLEUR, LYONS, MARTINEZ, MCMAGIN, MURRAY, MUSCARELLO, OWEN, PHELPS, SCHLEGEL, STAGNI, THOMPSON, VILLIO, WALTERS, WILEY, WRIGHT, AND WYBLE AND SENATOR OWEN
AN ACT

To designate a portion of United States Highway 190 Business East in Slidell, Louisiana, as the “Senior Police Officer Trevor Abney Memorial Highway”; to provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The portion of United States Highway 190 Business East in Slidell, Louisiana, beginning at the intersection of Beech Avenue and East Interstate 10 Service Road and United States Highway 190 and ending at the intersection of United States Highway 190 East and Military Road shall be known and is hereby designated as the “Senior Police Officer Trevor Abney Memorial Highway”.

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signage reflecting this designation provided local or private monies are received by the department equal to the department's actual costs for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 58

HOUSE BILL NO. 152
BY REPRESENTATIVE MACK
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:964(Schedule D)(A)(108) through (120), relative to the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law; to add certain substances to the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:964(Schedule D)(A)(108) through (120) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§964. Composition of schedules
Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V shall, unless and until added pursuant to R.S. 40:962, consist of the following drugs or other substances, by whatever official name, common or usual name, chemical name, or brand name designated:

- SCHEDULE I
- A. Opiates. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any of the following opiates, including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts, or salts of isomers, esters, and ethers, whenever the existence of such isomers, esters, ethers, or salts is possible within the specific chemical designation:
- * * *
- ~~*(108) N-Pyrrolidino metonitazene (2-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-nitro-1-[2-(pyrrolidino-1-yl)ethyl]-1H-benzimidazole)~~
- ~~*(109) N-Pyrrolidino protonitazene (2-[(4-propoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-nitro-1-[2-(pyrrolidino-1-yl)ethyl]-1H-benzimidazole)~~
- ~~*(110) Beta-Methylacetyl fentanyl (N-(1-(2-phenylpropyl)piperidin-4-yl)-N-phenylacetamide)~~
- ~~*(111) Para-Chlorofentanyl (N-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenethyl)-4-piperidinyl]propanamide)~~~~*(112) Para-fluoro valeryl fentanyl (N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(1-phenethyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanamide)~~
- ~~*(113) Tetrahydrothiofuranyl fentanyl (N-(1-phenethylpiperidin-4-yl)-N-phenyltetrahydrothiophene-2-carboxamide)~~
- ~~*(114) Ethyleneoxynitazene (N,N-diethyl-2-[(2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl)methyl]-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazole-1-ethanamine)~~
- ~~*(115) 5-Methyl etodesnitazene (N,N-diethyl-2-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-1-ethanamine)~~
- ~~*(116) N,N-Dimethylamino etonitazene (N,N-dimethyl-2-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazole-1-ethanamine)~~
- ~~*(117) N-Desethyl etonitazene (N-ethyl-2-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazole-1-ethanamine)~~
- ~~*(118) Methylenedioxynitazene (N,N-diethyl-2-[(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)methyl]-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazole-1-ethanamine)~~
- ~~*(119) N-Pyrrolidino isotonitazene (2-[(4-isopropoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-nitro-1-[2-(pyrrolidino-1-yl)ethyl]-1H-benzimidazole)~~
- ~~*(120) N-Desethyl protonitazene (N-ethyl-2-[(4-propoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazole-1-ethanamine)~~
- * * *

Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to arrange in alphabetical order and renumber the new entries provided in R.S. 40:964(Schedule D) as amended by this Act.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 59

HOUSE BILL NO. 171
BY REPRESENTATIVE SPELL
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 323(A) and 324(A), relative to personal sureties; to provide relative to bail; to provide a technical correction to certain cross-references; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 323(A) and 324(A) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 323. Secured personal surety
A. A secured personal surety is a personal surety who satisfies all the requirements of Article 311(5) and specifically mortgages immovable property located in the state of Louisiana.

* * *

Art. 324. Unsecured personal surety
A. A person in custody may be released by order of the court on an unsecured personal surety bail undertaking. An unsecured personal surety is a personal surety where the surety satisfies all the requirements of Article 311(5) and lives and resides in the state of Louisiana without specifically mortgaging or giving a security interest in any property as security to guarantee the surety's performance.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 60

HOUSE BILL NO. 179
BY REPRESENTATIVE MUSCARELLO
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:511 and Code of Civil Procedure Article 372(C) and (D), relative to notes and recordings retained by court reporters; to provide for ownership, custody, and control of the notes and recordings of court reporters; to provide relative to criminal and civil cases; and to

provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 15:511 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§511. Court reporters; retention and destruction of notes and recordings of criminal cases

A. The court reporter shall retain indefinitely all notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings of a criminal case. However, if the record of the trial or other criminal proceeding is fully transcribed, the court reporter shall retain all notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings which have been fully transcribed for a period of not less than two years after transcription is completed. In criminal cases where all defendants are acquitted, the court reporter need not retain the notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings. Retention of the tape and audio recordings are subject to the storage provisions provided in Subsection B of this Section. The court reporter shall destroy any notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings of any matter upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction. B. The notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings of any criminal case which are retained by a court reporter pursuant to the provisions of this Section ~~shall be~~ are the property of the court in which the case was heard. ~~The court reporter shall have the duty to retain and maintain all such notes and tape recordings pursuant to the provisions of this Section, although the notes and tape recordings shall remain the property of the court.~~ The court retains ownership of the recordings and notes, and if a court reporter retires or leaves the employment of the court, all notes, audio recordings, and other records of court proceedings shall remain in the custody and control of the court and be retained pursuant to applicable retention statutes and the provisions of this Section.

Section 2. Code of Civil Procedure Article 372(C) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 372. ~~Court reporter~~ reporters; retention and destruction of notes and recordings of civil cases

* * *

C. The court reporter shall retain all notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings in civil cases for a period of not less than five years after the end of the trial. However, if the record of the trial is fully transcribed, the court reporter shall retain all notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings which have been fully transcribed for a period of not less than two years after transcription is completed. Retention of the tape and audio recordings are subject to the storage provisions provided in Paragraph D of this Article. The court reporter shall destroy any notes and ~~tape~~ audio recordings of any matter upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

D. The notes and tape recordings of any civil case which are retained by a court reporter pursuant to the provisions of this Article ~~shall be~~ are the property of the court in which the case was heard. ~~The court reporter shall have the duty to retain and maintain all such notes and tape recordings pursuant to the provisions of this Article, although the notes and tape recordings shall remain the property of the court.~~ The court retains ownership of the recordings and notes, and if a court reporter retires or leaves the employment of the court, all notes, audio recordings, and other records of court proceedings shall remain in the custody and control of the court and be retained pursuant to applicable retention statutes and the provisions of this Article.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 61

HOUSE BILL NO. 232
BY REPRESENTATIVES CARLSON, AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, BOYER, CHASSION, CREWS, EGAN, GREEN, HEBERT, HORTON, KNOX, LAFLEUR, TERRY LANDRY, LYONS, MARCELLE, MELERINE, MOORE, MURRAY, NEWELL, OWEN, TAYLOR, WILDER, AND WYBLE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 23:181, 184(introductory paragraph) and (2)(a), 187, and 191 and to repeal R.S. 23:183, 184(1), and 188, relative to employment certificates for minors; to provide for the creation of employment certificate forms; to provide for the collection of employment certificate forms; to establish requirements for employment certificate forms; to provide for the validity and maintenance of employment certificates; to provide for the revocation of employment certificates; to remove requirements of schools and school boards issuing, approving, and maintaining employment certificates; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 23:181, 184(introductory paragraph) and (2)(a), 187, and 191 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§181. Secretary to prescribe and furnish forms employment certificate form; form requirements; collection of forms

A. The secretary shall prescribe and furnish ~~all forms to be used in connection with the issuance of employment certificates by each issuing authority~~ the employment certificate form on the department's website or at its local field offices.

B. The employment certificate form shall, at a minimum, include the following:

- (1) A signature line for the minor seeking employment.
(2) A line on which the minor can indicate the date he signs the certificate.
(3) A statement attesting that the minor's parent or legal guardian consents to and authorizes the minor to be employed and a signature line for the parent or legal guardian affirming such consent and authorization.
(4) A line on which the parent or legal guardian can indicate the date he signs the certificate.
(5) A statement explaining the submission of proofs of age as required by R.S. 23:184 followed by boxes to select what proofs of age the minor intends to submit to the employer.
(6) A line for the minor to provide the name of the prospective employer.
C. The department shall develop a policy and implement a procedure to collect all employment certificate forms from any employer who employs a minor within this state. The department shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary for the enforcement of this Section.

§184. Requirements for issuance Employment certificate requirements for validity; proofs of age criteria

Employment certificates shall be issued valid and binding only upon the personal application by the minor desiring employment, ~~accompanied by the written permission of the minor's parent or legal guardian~~ and upon submission to and approval by the ~~issuing authority~~ employer of the following papers:

- (2) One of the following proofs of age:
(a) A birth certificate, a short-form birth certification card, or a signed statement ~~thereof~~ issued by the recorder of births.

§187. Signing of certificate by minor; return by employer after Validity of employment certificates for employers; maintenance of employment certificates after termination of employment

~~The employment certificate shall be signed by the minor in the presence of the issuing authority and then it shall be returned to the minor for delivery to the employer.~~ An employment certificate shall be valid only for the employer for whom issued listed on the employment certificate form, and the employer shall be required to maintain it on file for a period of fourteen days after the termination of the minor's employment.

§191. Revocation
The secretary may revoke any employment or other certificate if in his judgment it was improperly issued or if the minor is illegally employed. If the certificate is revoked, ~~the issuing authority, the employer, and the minor,~~ shall be notified and the minor shall not ~~thereafter~~ be employed or permitted to work until a new certificate has been legally obtained.

Section 2. R.S. 23:183, 184(1), and 188 are hereby repealed in their entirety.
Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 62

HOUSE BILL NO. 286
BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT
AN ACT

To repeal R.S. 33:7728, relative to the St. Tammany Mosquito Abatement District; to repeal the independent authority of the St. Tammany Mosquito Abatement District relative to the expenditure of district funds; to repeal the district's authority to extend its services outside the territorial bounds of the district and to pay health insurance claims of its employees under certain circumstances; to repeal certain provisions relative to the boundaries of the district and the name of the district; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:7728 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 63

HOUSE BILL NO. 292
BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYD AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 9:3251(A), relative to advances or deposits for a residential or dwelling premises; to permit the extension of a return of advance or deposits to a tenant or lessee; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 9:3251(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3251. Lessee's deposit to secure lease; retention by lessor; conveyance of leased premises; itemized statement by lessor

A. Any advance or deposit of money furnished by a tenant or lessee to a landlord or lessor to secure the performance of any part of a written or oral lease or rental agreement shall be returned to the tenant or lessee of residential or dwelling premises within one month after the lease shall terminate, ~~except that~~ However, the landlord or lessor may retain all or any portion of the advance or deposit which is reasonably necessary to remedy a default of the tenant or to remedy unreasonable wear to the premises. If any portion of an advance or deposit is retained by a landlord or lessor, he shall forward to the tenant or lessee, within one month after the date the tenancy terminates or within fifteen days after the date that is one month after the tenancy terminates, an itemized statement accounting for the proceeds which are retained and giving the reasons therefor. The tenant shall furnish the lessor a forwarding address at the termination of the lease, to which such statements may be sent.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 64

HOUSE BILL NO. 297
BY REPRESENTATIVES MANDIE LANDRY, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, BOURRIQUE, BOYD, BRYANT, GREEN, DANA HENRY, KERNER, LAFLEUR, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MCMAHEN, MOORE, MURRAY, NEWELL, SCHLEGEL, TAYLOR, TURNER, AND WALTERS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 9:3261.1(B)(2) and (6), (E)(introductory paragraph) and (2), and (H), relative to leases; to expand lease termination to include stalking and cyberstalking; to provide for definitions; to provide for procedures, conditions, and requirements; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 9:3261.1(B)(2) and (6), (E)(introductory paragraph) and (2), and (H) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3261.1. Lease agreements for certain residential dwellings; domestic abuse victims; stalking and cyberstalking

B. Definitions

(2) "Domestic abuse" means domestic abuse battery as defined in R.S. 14:35.3 provided that the domestic abuse was committed on the leased premises or stalking or cyberstalking as defined in R.S. 14:40.2 and 40.3.

(6) "Qualified third party" means the executive director, program director, or another employee of a community-based shelter contracted with the Department of Children and Family Services pursuant to R.S. 46:2124, provided the employee is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), ~~or possesses a masters degree in Social Work (MSW)~~ a licensed professional counselor, prosecuting attorney, or investigating law enforcement officer who has personal involvement in the investigation or prosecution of any criminal case relative to the domestic abuse or stalking or cyberstalking.

E. Only a lessee or a household member of the lessee's residential dwelling unit may be considered a domestic abuse victim such that the lessee may request an accommodation ~~under~~ pursuant to this Section. In order for a lessee to receive an early termination as provided in this Section, the lessee shall do all of the following:

(2) Provide to the lessor reasonable documentation that the lessee seeking an accommodation, or that lessee's household member, was a victim of an act of domestic abuse on the leased premises within the past thirty days. If the stalking or cyberstalking did not occur on the leased premises, the lessee shall provide a written declaration on why residing on the leased premises may pose a threat to the victim's safety as provided by the certification in Subsection H of this Section.

H. A Certification of Domestic Abuse form as provided for in this Section shall read substantially the same as follows:
(Name of qualified third party and, if applicable, the name of their shelter, office, or agency)

I and/or my (family or household member) have suffered domestic abuse as defined in R.S. 9:3261.1 or stalking or cyberstalking as defined in R.S.14:40.2 and R.S. 14:40.3.

Briefly describe the incident giving rise to the claim of domestic abuse:
The incident(s) that I rely on in support of this declaration occurred on the following date(s) and time(s): _____ and at the following location(s): If the stalking or cyberstalking did not occur on the leased premises, the reasons why continuing to reside on the leased premises may pose a threat to

the victim's safety.

The incident(s) that I rely on in support of this declaration was/were committed by the following person(s), if known: _____.

I state under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Louisiana that the foregoing is true and correct. By submitting this statement I do not waive any legally recognized privilege protecting any communications that I may have with the agency or representative whose name appears below or with any other person or entity. I understand that my obligation to pay rent does not end until the early termination date of my lease as decided by the lessor or until I vacate the premises upon receiving agreement by the lessor to terminate my obligations under the lease early. I understand that my lessor may keep my security deposit or other amounts as permitted under law.

Dated at _____, Louisiana, this _____ day of _____ 20____.

(Signature of Lessee or Lessee's family or household member)
PRINTED NAME _____

I verify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Louisiana that I have provided services to the person whose signature appears above and that, based on information communicated to me by the person whose signature appears above, the individual or his or her family or household member has suffered domestic abuse as defined by R.S. 9:3261.1 or stalking or cyberstalking as defined in R.S.14:40.2 and R.S. 14:40.3, and that the individual informed me of the name of the alleged perpetrator of the actions, giving rise to the claim, if known. This verification does not waive any legally recognized privilege that I, my agency, or any of its representatives have with the person whose signature appears above.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Signature of qualified third party)
PRINTED NAME _____
(License number or organizational tax identification number)
(Organization name)
(Printed address)

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 65

HOUSE BILL NO. 305
BY REPRESENTATIVE CARVER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:81.1(F), relative to victims of child sexual abuse materials; to provide for the duties of law enforcement; to provide for the sharing of information between law enforcement and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:81.1(F) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§81.1. Child sexual abuse materials

* * *

F.(1)(2) Upon the filing of any information or indictment by the prosecuting authority for a violation of this Section, the investigating law enforcement agency ~~which that~~ seized the photographs, films, videotapes, or other visual reproductions of child sexual abuse materials ~~shall provide copies of those reproductions to the Internet crimes against children division within the attorney general's office.~~

(3) ~~Upon receipt of the reproductions as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, the Internet crimes against children division shall do all of the following:~~

(a) Provide ~~those~~ visual reproductions to the law enforcement agency representative assigned to the Child Victim Identification Program at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

(b) Request the Child Victim Identification Program to provide the law enforcement agency contact information for any visual reproductions recovered ~~which that~~ contain an identified victim of child sexual abuse materials as defined in this Section.

(c) Provide case information to the Child Victim Identification Program, as requested by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children guidelines, in any case ~~where the Internet crimes against children division within the attorney general's office identifies a previously unidentified victim of child sexual abuse materials submitted to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children when visual reproductions are recovered that contain child sexual abuse materials as defined in this Section.~~

(d) In any case that involves the production of newly created child sexual abuse materials, the investigating law enforcement agency shall provide the case information and visual reproductions to the Child Victim Identification Program, as requested by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children guidelines.

~~(4) (2) The Internet crimes against children division investigating law enforcement agency shall submit to the designated prosecutor the law enforcement agency contact information provided by the Child Victim Identification Program at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to the designated prosecutor, for any visual reproductions involved in the case which that contain the depiction of an identified victim of child~~

sexual abuse materials as defined in this Section.

(5) (3) In all cases in which the prosecuting authority has filed an indictment or information for a violation of this Section and the victim of child sexual abuse materials has been identified and is a resident of this state, the ~~prosecuting agency investigating law enforcement agency~~ shall submit all of the following information to the ~~attorney general for entry into the Louisiana Attorney General's Exploited Children's Identification database maintained by that office~~ Child Victim Identification Program at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children:

(a) The parish, district, and docket number or agency file number of the case.

(b) The name, race, sex, and date of birth of the defendant.

(c) ~~The identity of the victim~~ Biographical information associated with the victim. (d) The contact information for the law enforcement agency ~~which that~~ identified a victim of child sexual abuse materials, ~~including contact information maintained by the Child Victim Identification Program and provided to the Internet crimes against children division in accordance with this Section.~~

(6) (4) No sentence, plea, conviction, or other final disposition shall be invalidated due to failure to comply with the provisions of this Subsection, and no person shall have a cause of action against the investigating law enforcement agency or any prosecuting authority, or officer or agent thereof for failure to comply with the provisions of this Subsection.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 66

HOUSE BILL NO. 331
BY REPRESENTATIVE MACK
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to establish the “Louisiana GOP” special prestige license plate; to provide for the creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to such license plates; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§463.243. Special prestige license plate; Louisiana GOP

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Louisiana GOP” plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plate. The plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department's electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the chair of the Republican Party of Louisiana to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include “Louisiana GOP”.

C. The prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate. D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the Republican Party of Louisiana. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used solely for the activities of the Republican Party of Louisiana.

F. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 67

HOUSE BILL NO. 332
BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:264(H), relative to the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority; to provide for minimum meeting requirements of the authority; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:264(H) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§264. Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

* * *
H. The ~~Authority~~ authority shall meet at least ~~four~~ two, but not more than twelve, times a year upon call.

* * *
Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 68

HOUSE BILL NO. 334
BY REPRESENTATIVE CREWS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 23:1553(G), to enact R.S. 49:191(3)(b), and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(f), relative to Louisiana Works, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of Louisiana Works and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence of such statutory entities; to provide for the re-authorization of the Incumbent Worker Training Program within Louisiana Works; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 23:1553(G) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§1553. Noncharging of benefits; recoupment; social charge account; social charge tax rate

* * *
G. The Incumbent Worker Training Program reauthorization shall be expressly renewed by the legislature prior to July 1, ~~2026~~ 2030, in order for amounts to be charged and credited to the Incumbent Worker Training Account in the following calendar year for use in funding the program.
Section 2. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, Louisiana Works and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30, 2026, and all statutory authority therefor is continued in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.
Section 3. All statutory authority for the existence of Louisiana Works and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 2 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2031, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, Louisiana Works may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.
Section 4. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.
Section 5. R.S. 49:191(3)(b) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-out period for statutory entities; table of dates
Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

* * *
(3) July 1, 2030:
* * *
(b) Louisiana Works and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.
* * *

Section 6. R.S. 49:191(1)(f) is hereby repealed in its entirety.
Section 7. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 69

HOUSE BILL NO. 344
BY REPRESENTATIVE COATES
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:3412.1(E), relative to the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund; to provide for changes in balance allocation and suspension of collections under the fund; to provide relative to the balance within the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority; to increase the upper

and lower threshold balances of the monies within the authority; to provide for the collection of assessments; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 3:3412.1(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§3412.1. Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund; creation; assessment; rules and regulations; suspension of assessment; eligibility for reimbursement; availability of money; prorated claims; reimbursement for administrative expenses; failure to pay; subrogation

* * *
E. Beginning on July ~~1st~~ first following the fiscal year in which the balance within the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority reaches a level of ~~twelve~~ twenty-five million dollars, the commission shall suspend collection of the assessment required by this Section. If after suspension of collection the balance is less than ~~ten~~ twenty-two million dollars, the commission shall require collection of the assessment. Any assessments collected after the balance reaches ~~twelve~~ twenty-five million dollars, but prior to the suspension of collection, shall remain within the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority.
* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 70

HOUSE BILL NO. 346
BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHAMERHORN, ADAMS, BACALA, BAGLEY, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOUDREAUX, BOURRIQUE, BOYD, BOYER, BRAUD, BROUSSARD, BUTLER, CARLSON, CARRIER, ROBBY CARTER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, COATES, COX, CREWS, DEVILLIER, DEWITT, DICKERSON, ECHOLS, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, FISHER, FONTENOT, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, GADBERRY, GLORIOSO, GREEN, CHANCE HENRY, HILFERTY, HORTON, ILLG, MIKE JOHNSON, JORDAN, KNOX, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MCFARLAND, MELERINE, MENA, MOORE, MURRAY, ORGERON, OWEN, PHELPS, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, STAGNI, TARVER, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, TURNER, VILLIO, WALTERS, WILEY, WYBLE, AND ZERINGUE
AN ACT

To redesignate a portion of United States Highway 171 from Louisiana Highway 118 to Sandra Lane in Florien, Louisiana, as the “Speaker Joe R. Salter Memorial Highway”; to provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. The portion of United States Highway 171 from Louisiana Highway 118 to Sandra Lane within the village of Florien, Louisiana, shall be known and is hereby redesignated as the “Speaker Joe R. Salter Memorial Highway”.
Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development or its contractors are hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signage reflecting this redesignation provided local or private monies are received by the department equal to the department’s actual costs for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 71

HOUSE BILL NO. 356
BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE
AN ACT

To designate the elevated portion of Louisiana Highway 315, commonly referred to as the Bayou Dularge Bascule Bridge, over the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Terrebonne Parish, city of Houma, as the “Elward T. Brady, Jr. Memorial Bridge”; to provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. The elevated portion of Louisiana Highway 315, commonly referred to as the Bayou Dularge Bascule Bridge, over the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Terrebonne Parish, city of Houma, shall be known and is hereby designated as the “Elward T. Brady, Jr. Memorial Bridge”.
Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development or its

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

contractors are hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signage reflecting this designation provided local or private monies are received by the department equal to the department's actual costs for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 72

HOUSE BILL NO. 367

BY REPRESENTATIVES BUTLER, BAGLEY, BAYHAM, COATES, DEWITT,
CHANCE HENRY, KNOX, MCMAHEN, AND WYBLE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:3372(E)(2), relative to the enforcement procedures of the Structural Pest Control Commission; to provide relative to notice requirements applicable to an adjudicatory hearing held by the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:3372(E)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3372. Enforcement

* * *

E. Civil penalties may be assessed, probation may be imposed, and permits, licenses, and registrations may be suspended or revoked only by a ruling of the commission based on an adjudicatory hearing held in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and the following special provisions:

* * *

(2) The commission shall notify the alleged violator ~~by certified mail at least thirty days prior to the date the hearing is held~~ in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 73

HOUSE BILL NO. 436

BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 33:4558 and R.S. 56:1688(A), relative to state and municipal parks; to provide for the use of veterans honorably discharged as police officers in a municipal park; to provide for the use of veterans honorably discharged as state park wardens; to provide for the definition of veteran; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:4558 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: §4558. Exercise of police power over municipally-owned places of amusement

A. Any municipality or local governing authority may exercise unlimited police power for the preservation of peace and order, comfort, convenience, and good conduct upon all parks, playgrounds, swimming pools and other places of amusement owned and operated by the municipality, within or outside their corporate limits, may pass any ordinance necessary for these purposes, and may impose penalties for violations of the ordinance. The police officers of the municipality or local governing authority, which may include the appointment of veterans honorably discharged as defined in R.S. 15:1199.23, may make arrests for violations of the ordinance within or without the corporate limits of the municipality.~~B.(1) If employed by the municipality or local governing authority, a veteran appointed pursuant to this Section shall meet all training requirements and qualifications for employment.~~

(2) This Section does not prevent a municipality or local governing authority from deputizing a veteran honorably discharged for the purpose of making arrests for violations of an ordinance within or outside of the corporate limits of the municipality. The municipality or local governing authority that deputizes a veteran honorably discharged may require that the veteran be certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training or be qualified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training, or both.

Section 2. R.S. 56:1688(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1688. Park wardens; powers and duties

A. The secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism may appoint competent men, which may include the appointment of veterans honorably discharged as defined in R.S. 15:1199.23, to serve as state park wardens. A veteran appointed pursuant to this Section shall meet all training requirements and qualifications for employment.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 74

HOUSE BILL NO. 505

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANCE HENRY

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:3210(B), 3242(A), 3244, 3246(A), and 3251(B)(4), relative to the Louisiana Pesticide Law; to provide for the disposition of unexpended and unencumbered monies in the Pesticide Fund; to provide for the issuance of certification cards for commercial applicators, pesticide salespersons, and agricultural consultants; to provide for the renewal of such certificates; to provide for fees for certain licenses and certificates issued or reissued by the commissioner; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:3210(B), 3242(A), 3244, 3246(A), and 3251(B)(4) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3210. Pesticide Fund

* * *

B. After compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, and prior to monies being placed in the state general fund, an amount equal to that deposited as required by Subsection A ~~hereof of this Section~~ shall be credited to a special fund hereby created in the state treasury to be known as the "Pesticide Fund". The monies in this fund shall be used solely as provided in Subsection C ~~hereof of this Section~~ and only in the amounts appropriated by the legislature. All unexpended and unencumbered monies in this fund at the end of the fiscal year shall ~~be returned to the state general~~ remain in the fund. The monies in this fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in the same manner as monies in the state general fund, and interest earned on the investment of these monies shall be credited to the state general fund.

* * *

§3242. Certification of commercial applicators

A. No person shall apply or supervise the application of any restricted use pesticide as a commercial applicator unless that person has the proper certification. Certification shall be issued only after the applicant has satisfactorily passed an examination. The commissioner shall establish categories and subcategories for certification in different areas of commercial application and shall establish specific standards for each category and subcategory. Certification shall be valid for three years and shall be renewed in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner by rule shall provide for the issuance of ~~annual~~ certification cards every three years to coincide with the certification renewal period. Commercial applicators may supervise the ground application of restricted use pesticides within the commercial applicator's certification by competent uncertified individuals who are under the direct supervision of the commercial applicator. Commercial applicators shall not supervise the aerial application of any pesticide by any uncertified person.

* * *

§3244. Certification of pesticide salespersons

No person shall sell or supervise the sale of restricted use pesticides as a pesticide salesperson unless that person has the proper certification. Certification shall be issued only after the applicant has satisfactorily passed an examination. Certification shall be valid for three years and shall be renewed in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner by rule shall provide for the issuance of ~~annual~~ certification cards every three years to coincide with the certification renewal period. Pesticide salespersons may supervise the sale of restricted use pesticides by competent uncertified individuals who are under the direct supervision of the pesticide salespersons.

* * *

§3246. Certification and licensing of agricultural consultants

A. No person shall be employed as an agricultural consultant unless that person has the proper certification. Certification shall be issued only after the applicant has satisfactorily passed an examination. Certification shall be valid for three years and shall be renewed in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner. The commissioner by rule shall provide for the issuance of ~~annual~~ certification cards every three years to coincide with the certification renewal period.

* * *

§3251. Fees

* * *

B. The fees for the licenses and certificates issued or reissued by the commissioner shall be as follows:

* * *

(4) The fee for issuing the ~~annual~~ triennial certification card shall be ~~twenty~~ sixty dollars. This provision shall not apply to private applicators.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 75

HOUSE BILL NO. 537
BY REPRESENTATIVE CREWS
AN ACT

To repeal R.S. 23:1294 and R.S. 36:309(B)(2), relative to the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council; to repeal the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 23:1294 and R.S. 36:309(B)(2) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 76

HOUSE BILL NO. 553
BY REPRESENTATIVES CARLSON AND CHASSION
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1907(E), (F)(1)(a) and (b), and (G)(1), relative to assessors; to increase the membership of the assessors' certification program committee; to provide for committee member qualifications; to expand the courses eligible to meet the educational requirements for the assessors' professional certification program; to expand courses eligible to meet educational requirements for the recertification of assessors; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:1907(E), (F)(1)(a) and (b), and (G)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1907. Salaries

* * *

E. The assessors' certification program committee, hereinafter referred to as the "certification committee", is hereby created to govern the assessors' professional certification program. The certification committee shall be composed of ~~five~~ eleven members who shall serve one-year terms and who may be reappointed. The members shall be appointed as follows:

(1) One member shall be the ~~chairman of the education committee~~ Education Coordinator of the Louisiana Assessors Association who shall serve as chairman of the certification committee.

(2) ~~One member~~ Two members shall be appointed by the Louisiana Tax Commission. (3) ~~Two~~ Eight members shall be assessors who have met the requirements for certification as certified Louisiana assessors (CLAs) or deputy assessors who have met the Louisiana Assessors' Association requirements for certification as certified Louisiana deputy assessors who shall be appointed by the president of the Louisiana Assessors' Association. The president of the Louisiana Assessors' Association shall appoint one member from each of the eight Board of Directors' districts established by the Louisiana Assessors' Association.

(4) ~~One member shall be a deputy assessor who has met the Louisiana Assessors Association requirements for certification as a certified Louisiana deputy assessor (CLDA) who shall be appointed by the president of the Louisiana Assessors Association.~~

F.(1) The educational requirements for certification shall be as follows:

(a) A passing grade on the examination for the International Association of Assessing Officers course ~~1~~ 101-- Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal.

(b) A passing grade on the examination for the International Association of Assessing Officers course ~~2--Income Approach to Valuation or equivalent courses offered by the Appraisal Institute~~ 400-- Assessment Administration.

* * *

G.(1) Recertification shall be obtained by completing either of the following requirements:

(a) A minimum of fifty-nine hours of continuing education offered by the International Association of Assessing Officers or the Appraisal Institute, which shall include the International Association of Assessing Officers Workshop 151 Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) course, the Workshop 191 National USPAP Update, or an approved Appraisal Foundation one or two-day Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) course and at least one course, thirty hours minimum, on appraisal of property completed by passing a written examination. The remaining hours shall be selected from recertification guidelines as adopted by the certification committee. All designees shall obtain recertification within a five-year period.

(b) A minimum of seventy-four hours of continuing education offered by the International Association of Assessing Officers or the Appraisal Institute, which shall include the International Association of Assessing Officers Workshop 151 Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) course, the Workshop 191 National USPAP Update, or an approved Appraisal Foundation one or two-day Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) course and at least one course, thirty hours minimum, on appraisal of property, for which no written examination shall be required. The remaining hours shall be selected from recertification guidelines as adopted by the certification committee. All designees shall obtain recertification within a five-year period.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 77

HOUSE BILL NO. 576
BY REPRESENTATIVE GADBERRY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 49:141 and to enact Chapter 5-S of Title 25 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 25:380.161 through 380.166, relative to the Old Governor's Mansion; to transfer the Old Governor's Mansion to the Department of State; to provide for the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the secretary of state and the department; to provide relative to operations and funding; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 5-S of Title 25 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 25:380.161 through 380.166, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 5-S. OLD GOVERNOR'S MANSION

§380.161. Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly provides otherwise:

(1) "Department" means the Department of State.

(2) "Secretary" means the secretary of state.

§380.162. Establishment and location; purpose and use

A. The Old Governor's Mansion is established as a facility in the City of Baton Rouge under the overall jurisdiction of the department, as more specifically provided in this Chapter.

B. The secretary shall have custody, control, and supervision of maintenance of the Old Governor's Mansion and its contents. Title to the Old Governor's Mansion shall remain in the state of Louisiana, along with all buildings and other improvements constructed thereon. All of the management, functions, programs, and operations of every kind of the Old Governor's Mansion shall be exercised and performed by the secretary.

C. For purposes of administration and supervision of the Old Governor's Mansion, the secretary shall have full authority over its grounds and all other buildings and improvements constructed thereon, and shall control any use made thereof and the space therein.

D. The Old Governor's Mansion shall be a historical, cultural, and educational institution whose primary purpose shall be to collect, preserve, and present, as an educational resource, documents, artifacts, objects of art, and the like, that reflect the politics, history, art, and culture of Louisiana.

§380.163. Operations

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary and in particular the provisions of R.S. 41:1212, the secretary may enter into contracts and agreements with any public agency or nonprofit corporation which has been established for the primary purpose of supporting the programs and activities of the Old Governor's Mansion for the establishment of offices, stores, or exhibits on the property of and in the Old Governor's Mansion. The secretary may also enter into contracts and agreements for joint construction, equipment, maintenance, and financing thereof, and may enter into contracts and agreements for the joint financing, supervision, and conduct of cooperative enterprises and undertakings. Any public agency may enter into contracts and agreements with the secretary for the purposes mentioned in this Section.

§380.164. Operating funds

A. The legislature shall provide sufficient funds for the proper operation of the Old Governor's Mansion.

B.(1) If sufficient funds necessary for the operation of the Old Governor's Mansion are not appropriated by the legislature, and funds from other local, public, or private sources are not available for this purpose, the department may temporarily close the Old Governor's Mansion to the public until such time as sufficient funds necessary for the operation of the Old Governor's Mansion are appropriated by the legislature. The department shall maintain the Old Governor's Mansion during any period of temporary closure.

(2) The department may accept and use, in accordance with law, gifts, grants, bequests, donations, endowments, or funds from any public or private source to support operations of the Old Governor's Mansion.

§380.165. Donations and loans; disposition of abandoned loans

A. The secretary may solicit and accept funds, governmental grants, donations, and contributions of lands, buildings, monies, relics, works of art, or other property on behalf of and as additions to the Old Governor's Mansion either in the form of loans or in the form of donations inter vivos or mortis causa, and the secretary may acquire them by purchase, lease, or otherwise, subject to the terms, conditions, or limitations contained in the instrument by which such property is acquired. However, the secretary shall be empowered and authorized to enter into any and all contracts with any person, lender, or donor that he may deem fit, proper, and necessary to accept and receive such lands, buildings, monies, relics, works of art, or other property on behalf of and as additions to the Old Governor's Mansion. The Old Governor's Mansion

is specifically empowered to serve as the beneficiary of any public trust heretofore or hereafter created for such purpose pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 9:2341 through 2347.

B. The secretary is granted the authority of deaccession with respect to any collections of the Old Governor's Mansion and for such purpose is specifically exempted from the laws of the state relative to the sale or disposal of surplus property. The secretary shall establish policies and procedures necessary to carry out this authority in an orderly manner.

C.(1) Any property which has been deposited with the Old Governor's Mansion, by loan or otherwise, and which has been held by the Old Governor's Mansion for more than ten years, and to which no person has made a claim shall be deemed to be abandoned and, notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 1 of Title XII of Book III of the Civil Code, shall become the property of the Old Governor's Mansion, provided that the secretary of state has published a notice and listing of the property in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the parish at least once per week for two consecutive weeks. The notice shall contain:

(a) The name and last known address, if any, of the last known owner or depositor of the property.

(b) A description of the property.

(c) A statement that if proof of claim is not presented by the owner to the secretary and if the owner's right to receive such property is not established to the satisfaction of the secretary within sixty-five days from the date of the second published notice, the property will be deemed abandoned and shall become the property of the Old Governor's Mansion.

(2) If no valid claim is made to the property within sixty-five days from the date of the second published notice, title to the property shall vest in the Old Governor's Mansion free from all claims of the owner and all persons claiming through or under him.

§380.166. Use of collections

The collections of the Old Governor's Mansion may be lent in part subject to approval by the secretary. The secretary shall ensure proper safeguards for their maintenance and return and shall ensure that proper records are kept.

Section 2. R.S. 49:141 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§141. Division of State Buildings; superintendent; duties

A. There is created the Division of State Buildings in the office of the governor which shall be administered by a superintendent of state buildings appointed by the governor. The superintendent of state buildings shall have charge of the management, operation, and maintenance of general public buildings of the state, including both the old and new governor's mansions the new governor's mansion.

B. The Division of State Buildings shall have custody and supervision of maintenance of the Old Governor's Mansion. Title to said property shall remain in the state of Louisiana, along with all buildings and other improvements constructed thereon. The buildings and grounds shall be maintained by the superintendent of state buildings out of regular appropriations made for such purposes.

C. For purposes of administration and supervision of the Old Governor's Mansion, the commissioner of administration shall have full authority over its grounds and all other buildings and improvements constructed thereon, and shall control any use made thereof and the space therein. He shall have further authority to transfer custody, supervision, and general administrative control for purposes of historic preservation, heritage education, maintenance, protection, and promotion of the building, historical collections, and artifacts and the historical integrity of the site to any public agency or nonprofit corporation with sufficient resources necessary to operate the said facility consistent therewith as its custodian in order to administer and to insure the future of the mansion and the value of its collections; and to honor the relationships and trusts established in the early years with the governors and their families who donated personal items for such purposes, as the said commissioner of administration may deem appropriate, according to the constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, including R.S. 39:11 et seq.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 78

HOUSE BILL NO. 587
BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle prestige license plates; to establish the "PANS/PANDAS" specialty license plate; to provide for the creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to such license plates; to provide for the deposit of royalty proceeds into the state general fund; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§463.243. Special prestige license plate: "PANS/PANDAS"

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the "PANS/PANDAS" plate, provided that there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plate. The plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department's electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the local artist, as well as families, community members, and representatives of organizations supporting awareness of Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome to develop and select the color and design of the plate, provided that it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include the words "PANS/PANDAS". C. The special applicants license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This royalty fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and credited to the state general fund of the state of Louisiana.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 79

HOUSE BILL NO. 594
BY REPRESENTATIVES LACOMBE, CHENEVERT, DICKERSON, GALLE, HEBERT, JORDAN, LAFLEUR, MANDIE LANDRY, MACK, NEWELL, ORGERON, OWEN, VENTRELLA, WILEY, AND ZERINGUE AND SENATORS CARTER, EDMONDS, LUNEAU, MILLER, MIZELL, AND SEABAUGH
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 1:58.10, relative to days of remembrance; to provide for SCN2A day in the state; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 1:58.10 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§58.10. SCN2A Day

A. February twenty-fourth is designated as SCN2A Day throughout the state of Louisiana.

B. This Section shall be known and may be cited as the "Emily Katherine Dedon Act" in memory of the beautiful young child whose passing highlighted the need for awareness of SCN2A.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 80

HOUSE BILL NO. 629
BY REPRESENTATIVES LYONS, BOYD, BRASS, BRAUD, BROUSSARD, CHASSION, DICKERSON, DOMANGUE, GREEN, KNOX, LAFLEUR, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MURRAY, SPELL, TAYLOR, WALTERS, AND WILEY
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to establish the "Krewe of Athena" specialty license plate; to provide for the creation, issuance, design, fees, implementation, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to such license plate; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§463.243. Special prestige license plate: "Krewe of Athena"

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the "Krewe of Athena" plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plate. The plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department's electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the Krewe of Athena

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

Carnival Club, Inc. to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include the words “Krewe of Athena” C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This royalty fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the treasurer of the Krewe of Athena Carnival Club, Inc. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used to provide scholarships for debutantes.

F. The secretary shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 81

**HOUSE BILL NO. 652
BY REPRESENTATIVE BRAUD
AN ACT**

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:421(B)(5) through (15), (C), and (E)(4) and to enact R.S. 56:421(B)(16), relative to the Oyster Task Force; to add one member to the task force appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry; to add the Department of Agriculture and Forestry as an entity that receives recommendations from the task force relative to the oyster industry and production; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:421(B)(5) through (15), (C), and (E)(4) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 56:421(B)(16) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§421. Oyster Task Force

* * *

B. The task force shall be composed as follows:

* * *

(5) One member appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

~~(5)~~ (6) Four members appointed by the Louisiana Oyster Dealers and Growers Association. Two members appointed under the provisions of this Paragraph shall be selected at-large. Of the other two members, one shall be from Jefferson Parish and one shall be selected from either Lafourche or Terrebonne Parish.~~(6)~~ (7) Two members appointed by the Plaquemines Oyster Association.

~~(7)~~ (8) One member appointed by the Terrebonne Oyster Association.

~~(8)~~ (9) One member appointed by the Cameron Parish police jury who is a properly licensed oyster harvester with documented commercial landings of oysters from Calcasieu Lake, or a properly licensed seafood dealer with documented commercial purchases of oysters from Calcasieu Lake during the current or preceding license year of appointment as per records of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

~~(9)~~ (10) One member appointed by the Southwest Pass Oyster Leaseholder Association.

~~(10)~~ (11) Two members appointed by the United Commercial Fisherman’s Association.

~~(11)~~ (12) One member appointed by the Delta Commercial Fisherman’s organization.

~~(12)~~ (13) One member who has voting authority and is an oyster grower appointed by the president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation.

~~(13)~~ (14) One member appointed by the Louisiana Oyster Aquaculture Association.

~~(14)~~ (15) One member appointed by the executive director of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

~~(15)~~ (16) One member appointed by the Louisiana Oystermen Association.

C. The members appointed under the provisions of Paragraphs (B)(1) through ~~(4)~~ (5) and ~~(14)~~ (16) of this Section shall be nonvoting members. However, they shall be considered members of the task force for determination of the number of members necessary for a quorum and for establishing the presence of a quorum.

* * *

E. The task force is hereby charged with the responsibility to do the following:

* * *

(4) Make recommendations with respect to issues pertaining to the oyster industry and oyster production to the various state agencies charged with responsibility for differing elements of the oyster industry in this state, including the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, the Department of Conservation and Energy, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Louisiana Department of Health, the governor’s executive assistant for coastal activities, and the legislature.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 82

**HOUSE BILL NO. 653
BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM
AN ACT**

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:421(B)(10) and (E)(4), relative to the Oyster Task Force; to provide for the membership of the task force; to add the Department of Agriculture and Forestry as an entity that receives recommendations from the task force relative to the oyster industry; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:421(B)(10) and (E)(4) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§421. Oyster Task Force

* * *

B. The task force shall be composed as follows:

* * *

(10) Two members appointed by the United Commercial Fisherman’s Association, one of whom shall be a resident of St. Bernard Parish.

* * *

E. The task force is hereby charged with the responsibility to do the following:

* * *

(4) Make recommendations with respect to issues pertaining to the oyster industry and oyster production to the various state agencies charged with responsibility for differing elements of the oyster industry in this state, including the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, the Department of Conservation and Energy, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Louisiana Department of Health, the governor’s executive assistant for coastal activities, and the legislature.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 83

**HOUSE BILL NO. 697
BY REPRESENTATIVE GEYMANN
AN ACT**

To enact R.S. 49:191(3)(b) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(j), relative to the Department of Environmental Quality, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department of Environmental Quality and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law; to provide for the effective termination date for all statutory authority for the existence of such statutory entities; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Pursuant to R.S. 49:193, the Department of Environmental Quality and the statutory entities made a part of the department by law shall be re-created effective June 30, 2026, and all statutory authority therefore is continued in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 2. All statutory authority for the existence of the Department of Environmental Quality and the statutory entities made a part of the department as re-created by Section 1 of this Act shall cease as of July 1, 2031, pursuant to R.S. 49:191. However, the Department of Environmental Quality may be re-created prior to such date in accordance with the provisions of Part XII of Chapter 1 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 49:193 are hereby superseded to the extent that those provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

Section 4. R.S. 49:191(3)(b) is hereby enacted to read as follows:§191. Termination of legislative authority for existence of statutory entities; phase-out period for statutory entities; table of dates

Notwithstanding any termination dates set by any previous Act of the legislature, the statutory entities set forth in this Section shall begin to terminate their operations on July first of each of the following years, and all legislative authority for the existence of any statutory entity, as defined in R.S. 49:190, shall cease as of July first of the following year, which shall be the termination date:

* * *

(3) July 1, 2030:

* * *

(b) The Department of Environmental Quality and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.

* * *

Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(j) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 6. This Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on June 30, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 84

**HOUSE BILL NO. 756
BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT
AN ACT**

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:851.4(A)(2) through (7), (10), and (12), 851.10, 851.29, 855.2, and 855.3(A), relative to personal watercraft; to provide relative to the careless operation of watercraft; to provide relative to collisions on the waterways; to provide relative to enforcement and regulation; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 34:851.4(A)(2) through (7), (10), and (12), 851.10, 851.29, 855.2, and 855.3(A) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§851.4. Careless operation of a watercraft
A. Careless operation of a watercraft is the operation of a watercraft in a careless manner so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person, when such operation constitutes a violation of any of the following requirements:

* * *

(2) A vessel overtaking another vessel may do so on either side, but ~~must grant the right-of-way~~ shall give way to the vessel being overtaken.

(3) When vessels are on paths that cross, the vessel on the left ~~will~~ shall yield ~~right-of-way and give way to~~ the vessel on the right.

(4) Motorboats shall yield ~~right-of-way and give way to non-motor powered boats sailing vessels under sail power alone~~, except when being overtaken by ~~non-powered sailing vessels~~, for deep draft vessels that have to remain in narrow channels, or when the vessel is towing another vessel.

(5) Motorboats ~~must~~ shall maintain a direct course safe speed and use caution when passing ~~sailboats manually propelled vessels~~.(6) A vessel approaching a landing dock or pier shall yield ~~the right-of-way and give way to~~ any departing vessel.

(7) A vessel departing shoreline or tributary shall yield ~~right-of-way and give way to~~ through traffic and vessels approaching shoreline or tributary.

* * *

(10) ~~Vessels~~ When approaching a vessel, an operator yielding ~~right-of-way and giving way~~ shall reduce speed, stop, reverse, or alter course to avoid ~~collision~~ a boating incident as defined in R.S. 34:851.10. ~~Vessel with right-of-way~~ The other vessel shall hold course and speed. If there is danger of ~~collision~~ a boating incident, all vessels ~~will~~ shall slow down, stop, or reverse until danger is averted.

* * *

(12) ~~No~~ All mechanically propelled ~~vessel~~ vessels shall be operated ~~so as to traverse at a safe speed when traversing a course around any other vessel underway or near any person who is swimming.~~

* * *

§851.10. Collisions, ~~crashes, and casualties;~~ Boating incidents; theft,; reporting

A. For the purposes of this Section, the term “boating incident” means any incident in which a death, missing person, personal injury, property damage, or total vessel loss results from the vessel’s operation, construction, seaworthiness, equipment, or machinery when the vessel is in, upon, entering into, or exiting from the water.

~~A. B.~~ It shall be the duty of the operator of a vessel involved in a ~~collision, crash, or other casualty boating incident~~, so far as he can do so without serious danger to his own vessel, crew, and passengers, if any, to render do all of the following:

(1) Render to other persons affected by the ~~collision, crash, or other casualty boating incident~~ such assistance as may be practicable and as may be necessary in order to save them from or minimize any danger caused by the ~~collision, crash, or other casualty~~ and ~~also to give boating incident.~~

(2) Give his name, address, and identification of his vessel in writing to any person injured and to the owner of any property damaged in the ~~collision, crash, or other casualty boating incident.~~

~~B. C.~~(1) The operator of a vessel involved in a ~~collision, crash, or other casualty boating incident~~ involving a recreational vessel and resulting in death or injury to a person or ~~property damage in excess of five hundred dollars must damage to vessels and other property in an amount of two thousand dollars or more or resulting in a complete loss of any vessel~~ shall give notice of the incident immediately, by the most prompt means of communication, to the department, the nearest law enforcement agency, or to state police. Law enforcement agencies shall notify the department immediately upon receiving information of a ~~collision, crash, or other casualty involving a vessel and resulting in death or injury to a person or damages in excess of five hundred dollars boating incident.~~ The ~~driver~~ operator of any vessel involved in a ~~collision, crash, or other casualty boating incident~~ involving a recreational vessel and resulting in death or injury to a person,

~~or property damage in excess of five hundred dollars damage to vessels and other property in an amount of two thousand dollars or more or resulting in a complete loss of any vessel~~ shall, within five days after the incident, forward a department-approved incident report form to the department. A full description of the ~~collision or other casualty must boating incident~~ shall be reported and submitted on an official form supplied by the department. In ~~a crash an incident~~ where the operator is incapable of filing a report, each person on board shall bear the responsibility of notifying the department or determining that a report has been submitted. The department shall submit to the United States Coast Guard reportable ~~accidents~~ incidents consistent with the Statement of Understanding between the state of Louisiana and the United States Coast Guard. The department shall provide copies of completed ~~crash incident~~ reports to any interested person upon request. The department may charge a fee not to exceed five dollars for reports that do not exceed four pages and seven dollars and fifty cents for reports that exceed four pages. The department may also charge a reasonable fee for copies of photographs, videotapes, audiotapes, and any extraordinary-sized documents or documents stored on electronic media.

(2) When a ~~collision, crash, or other casualty boating incident~~ occurs within the prohibited zone, as defined in R.S. 34:851.2(7), involving a vessel or vessel flotilla within the scope of R.S. 34:851.24(J), the report required by this Subsection shall also be made to the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission within the time period applicable to submitting such report to the department.

~~E. D.~~ Every owner of a registered boat shall report its theft to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries within five days of discovery of theft. The violation of the provisions of this Subsection shall not be subject to any penalty, including the provisions of R.S. 34:851.31(C) and shall not be construed to be a crime.

* * *

§851.29. Enforcement

It shall be the duty and responsibility of every wildlife agent and peace officer of this state and its subdivisions to enforce the provisions of this Part; ~~and in the exercise thereof, they are hereby authorized to, except that no agent or officer shall perform a vessel stop and or board any vessel for the purpose of addressing inquiries to those on board, requiring appropriate proof of identification therefrom, examining the certificate of numbers issued under this Part or in the absence of such certificate requiring appropriate proof of identification of the owner or operator of the vessel, and in addition, examining such vessel for compliance with this Part enforcing the provisions of this Part unless the agent or officer has reasonable suspicion that a violation of this Part has occurred or is occurring. Officers so boarding any~~ Any agent or officer who boards a vessel shall first identify themselves himself and such the agent or officer, while in the performance of his duties, shall be without liability not be liable for trespass.

* * *

§855.2. Definitions

As used in this Part, “personal watercraft” means a vessel which uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump ~~or other machinery~~ as its primary source of motive power and which is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel, rather than the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel.

§855.3. Regulation of personal watercraft

A. ~~A person shall not operate a personal watercraft unless each person aboard is wearing a type I, type II, type III, or type V personal flotation device approved by the United States Coast Guard. Every person on board a personal watercraft shall wear a personal flotation device and no operator of a personal watercraft shall allow any person who is not wearing a personal flotation device to be on board his personal watercraft. The use of an inflatable personal flotation device while on board of a personal watercraft shall not constitute compliance with this Section.~~

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 85

**HOUSE BILL NO. 758
BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS
AN ACT**

To amend and reenact R.S. 30:2011(A)(1), (D)(22)(b) and (c), and (25), 2014(B), (D)(2), (3), (4), and (7), 2063(J), 2195.3(B), 2289.1(D), 2351.59(B), and (C) and R.S. 37:3154(10), to enact R.S. 30:2014(E), (F), and (G), and to repeal R.S. 30:2014(D) (5) and (6) and 2044(C), relative to Department of Environmental Quality fees; to provide for new fee structures to be set by the department and for those fees to be promulgated by rules and regulations adopted by the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 30:2011(A)(1), (D)(22)(b) and (c), and (25), 2014(B), (D)(2), (3), (4), and (7), 2063(J), 2195.3(B), 2289.1(D), 2351.59(B), and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 30:2014(E), (F), and (G) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2011. Department of Environmental Quality; creation; duties; powers;

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscoring and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

structure

A.(1) There is hereby created the Department of Environmental Quality which shall be the primary agency in the state concerned with environmental protection and regulation. The department shall have jurisdiction over matters affecting the regulation of the environment within the state, including but not limited to the regulation of air quality, noise pollution control, water pollution control, the regulation of solid waste disposal, the protection and preservation of the scenic rivers and streams of the state, the regulation and control of radiation, the management of hazardous waste, groundwater protection, underground storage tanks, and the regulation of those programs which encourage, assist, and result in the reduction of wastes generated within Louisiana.

* * *

D. The secretary shall have the following powers and duties:

* * *

(22)

* * *

(b) ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 30:2014(D)(3) or R.S. 49:971(A), the secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule in accordance with Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph for any application for accreditation by a commercial laboratory under the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.~~

The secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule for the certification of any commercial laboratory under the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

(c) The fee schedule authorized by Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph shall not exceed the following amounts: be determined by using a formula developed by rules based upon the test category per matrix, accreditation requested, and location of the laboratory.

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| (i) Accreditation application fee payable every scope amendment and every three year renewal. | \$ 726.00 |
| (ii)(aa) Per major test category per matrix payable every year, or | \$ 363.00 |
| (bb) Minor conventional category payable every year. | \$ 290.00 |
| (iii) Annual surveillance and evaluation applicable to minor conventional facilities and facilities applying for only one category of accreditation. | \$ 363.00 |
| (iv) Annual fee for dependent mobile lab laboratories, per mobile | \$ 363.00 |
| (v)(aa) Proficiency samples biannually to be purchased by the laboratory. | |
| (bb) Bioassay/biomonitoring annually to be purchased by the laboratory. | |
| (vi) Third party audit to be billed directly to the laboratory. | |
| (vii) The accreditation fees for in-state laboratories receiving national accreditation will be one and one-half times the regular fees. | |
| (viii) The accreditation fees for out-of-state laboratories receiving state accreditation will be one and one-half times the regular fees. | |
| (ix) The accreditation fees for out-of-state laboratories receiving national accreditation will be two times the regular fees. | |
| (x) Interim accreditation application fees will be two times the regular fees. | |

* * *

(25) To promulgate rules and regulations providing for conducting requested reviews of environmental conditions of a specified tract of immovable property, including but not limited to requests for no further action letters. Such rules may provide for a fee for each request by the landowner or a party with an interest in a real estate transaction involving the specified property not to exceed the maximum per hour overtime salary, including associated-related benefits, of a civil service employee of the department per hour or portion thereof required to conduct the review plus reasonable indirect costs calculated as a percentage of the hourly fee. Such percentage shall be determined annually by agreement between the department and the United States Environmental Protection Agency for use on grants and contracts. However, the department shall require a requestor to pay a minimum fee not exceeding one thousand six hundred fifty dollars prior to conducting the review.

* * *

§2014. Permits, licenses, registrations, variances, and fees

* * *

B. In order to provide for adequate permitting, monitoring, investigation, administration, and other activities required for the maintenance of a healthful and safe environment, an initial application fee and an annual monitoring and maintenance fee shall be charged for all permits, licenses, registrations, or variances authorized by this Subtitle. These fees shall be determined, except as otherwise provided in this Subtitle relative to maximum amounts of fees, using a formula developed by rules to be based upon a cost equal to the cost of the annual maintenance, permitting, monitoring, investigation, administration, and other activities required therewith, including any effects the volume of emissions or effluents may have on such activities. Any such formula or fees shall be adopted by the department by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq. Funds generated from these fees shall be deposited in the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account as provided in R.S. 30:2015 unless specified elsewhere.

* * *

D.

* * *

(2) ~~Unless otherwise provided by law, the department is prohibited from adjusting, modifying, or otherwise changing the formula for any fee authorized under this Section in a manner that would increase the fee paid by any person by more than five percent of the relevant fee paid by such person in the previous fiscal year. However, this Paragraph shall not apply to fees imposed by the department for any underground storage tanks as provided in R.S. 30:2194. The department is authorized to adjust, modify, or otherwise change the formula for any fee authorized under this Section based on the annual rate of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers maintained by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. This change can be aggregated for each year the formula has not been altered. The department shall adjust fee amounts through the rulemaking process.~~

(3) The department is prohibited from creating any new fees under this Subtitle, but is authorized to adjust or modify fees for activities authorized under this Subtitle or to change the formula if the need arises due to new technology, correction of errors, new industry, federal obligations, and budgetary concerns. The department shall promulgate rules to determine these fees by using a formula to be based upon a cost equal to the cost of the annual maintenance, permitting, monitoring, investigation, administration, and other activities required therewith, including any effects the volume of emissions or effluents may have on such activities.

(4)(a) In accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 2.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Environmental Quality may modify any fee that is in effect on June 30, 2002, is authorized by this Title, and is required to be deposited into the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account. Such a modification may increase the rate in effect on June 30, 2002, over the two-year fiscal period beginning July 1, 2002, as follows: the department may increase any such fee by a maximum of twenty percent, effective on or after July 1, 2002, and by a maximum of ten percent above the rate in effect on June 30, 2003, effective on or after July 1, 2003. Within ninety days of the promulgation and adoption of any regulation necessary to implement the fees herein, the Department of Environmental Quality shall submit a written report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for its approval which details the proposed use for the fee increase, efforts to decrease the processing time for permits, efforts to increase the number of inspections conducted at regulated facilities, enforcement activities, and efforts to increase the collection of fines imposed by the Department of Environmental Quality. the secretary may establish fees within each medium the department regulates through the rulemaking process. The fees charged shall be reflective of the department's work and costs necessary to issue and enforce each permit, and the corresponding fee schedules and matrices shall contemplate the scale and scope of each permit, facility, or other parameters necessary to determine the fees the department will assess. The fees promulgated by the department shall not exceed the following:

(b) ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Environmental Quality may increase the following fees from the amounts in effect on March 14, 2015, as authorized by this Title or any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant thereto, and is required to be deposited into the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account as follows:~~

(i) ~~Ground water fees provided for in Chapter 14 of Part I of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to ten percent.~~

(ii) ~~Air fees provided for in Part III of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to ten percent. A minimum application fee of five hundred dollars and a minimum annual maintenance fee of two hundred fifty dollars may be established. The maximum annual maintenance fee for natural gas compressors provided in LAC 33:III.223, Table 1, Categories 1430 through 1490 shall not exceed forty one thousand six hundred twelve dollars for any one gas transmission permit. In addition, the secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule for the following:~~

(aa) ~~An application fee for a new, modification, or renewal of an acid rain permit not to exceed five hundred dollars.~~

(bb) ~~An application fee for the renewal with no modification of an operating permit not to exceed the minimum minor permit modification fee.~~

(cc) ~~An annual fee charged for sources permitted pursuant to 40 CFR Part 70 and required to obtain a permit pursuant to Title V of the federal Clean Air Act not to exceed twenty percent of the total annual maintenance fees.~~

(iii) ~~Hazardous waste fees provided in Part V of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to twenty-five percent. In addition, the secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule for the following:~~

(aa) ~~An annual maintenance fee for hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities that are in post-closure not to exceed four thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars.~~

(bb) ~~An application fee for hazardous waste transfer facilities not to exceed one thousand nine hundred dollars.~~

(cc) ~~An application fee for used oil transfer facilities not to exceed one thousand three hundred dollars.~~

(dd) ~~An application fee for an extension of the accumulation time by hazardous waste generators not to exceed five hundred dollars.~~

(iv)(aa) ~~Solid waste fees provided in Part VII of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to twenty-five percent.~~

(bb) ~~Tonnage fees for non-industrial wastes provided for in LAC 33:VII.1505(B)~~

(2)(b) may be applied for amounts exceeding twenty five thousand tons.

(v) Water quality fees in Part IX of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to ten percent. In addition the secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule for the following:

(aa) A general permit for oil and gas wells in the coastal and territorial seas provided for in LAC 33:IX.1309(N) charged annually based upon each application for coverage under the general permit not to exceed one thousand seven hundred fifty dollars.

(bb) A general permit for sewage sludge authorizations charged annually not to exceed six hundred dollars.

(cc) An annual fee for sewage sludge individual permits not to exceed two thousand dollars.

(vi)(aa) Underground storage tank fees provided for in Part XI of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to ten percent.

(bb) The secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule for the amendment of registrations not to exceed sixty dollars.

(vii)(aa) Radiation protection fees in Part XV of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code may be increased by up to ten percent.

(bb) The secretary is hereby authorized to establish a fee schedule for a license renewal application fee not to exceed the new application fee.

(viii) Any increase authorized by this Subparagraph by a certain percentage shall be rounded up to the nearest dollar.

(c) Within ninety days of the promulgation and adoption of any regulation necessary to implement the fees authorized by Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the department shall submit a written report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for its approval which details the proposed use for the fee increase, efforts to decrease the processing time for permits, efforts to increase the number of inspections conducted at regulated facilities, enforcement activities, and efforts to increase the collection of fines imposed by the department.

(a) Groundwater Protection Fees in Part I of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars for any one site annually.

(b) Laboratory Accreditation Fees in Part I of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars per test scope category annually.

(c) Air Quality Control Fees in Part III of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall be based on the number of emissions points or the total tons actually emitted. The application fee or annual fee per emission point shall not exceed one hundred dollars per point. The annual fee per ton for criteria pollutants shall not exceed one hundred dollars annually.

(i) Class I Toxic Air Pollutants shall be four times the criteria pollutant rate annually.

(ii) Class II Toxic Air Pollutants shall be three times the criteria pollutant rate annually.

(iii) Class III Toxic Air Pollutants shall be two times the criteria pollutant rate annually.

(d) Hazardous Waste Fees in Part V of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall not exceed seven hundred seventy-five thousand dollars for any one permit annually.

(e) Solid Waste Fees in Part VII of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars for any one permit annually.

(f) Water Quality Fees in Part IX of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars for any one permit annually.

(g) Radiation Protection Fees in Part XV of Title 33 of the Louisiana Administrative Code shall not exceed seven hundred seventy-five thousand dollars for any one license annually.

(7) The department may require a fee to process any request for a declaratory ruling, request for expedited permit, review of environmental conditions, remediation and associated oversight and indirect costs, or review of a self audit not to exceed the maximum per-hour overtime salary, including associated-related benefits, of a civil service employee of the department per hour or portion thereof required to conduct the review plus reasonable indirect costs calculated as a percentage of the hourly fee. Such percentage shall be determined annually by agreement between the department and the United States Environmental Protection Agency for use on grants and contracts. However, the department may require a requestor to pay a minimum fee of one thousand five hundred dollars.

E. In accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 2.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Environmental Quality may modify any fee that is in effect on June 30, 2026, as authorized by this Subtitle. The department shall promulgate rules to determine these fees by using a formula to be based upon a cost equal to the cost of the annual maintenance, permitting, monitoring, investigation, administration, and other related activities, including any effects the volume of emissions or effluents may have on such activities. These fees shall be adopted by the department by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

F. The department shall promulgate rules to determine emergency processing fees and late fees in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq. Emergency processing fees shall not exceed one and one half times the regular fees. Late fees shall not exceed fifteen percent of the original fee amount.

G. Failure to pay the prescribed fee, as provided in this Subtitle, within ninety days after the due date shall constitute a violation and shall subject the person to applicable enforcement actions under the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2001 et seq. including but not limited to denial of an application and revocation or suspension of the applicable permit, license, registration, or variance.

* * *

§2063. Prevention of accidental releases

* * *

J. The regulations authorized pursuant to this Section may provide for the registration of each process covered by the regulations. In accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 2.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana and R.S. 30:2014, the department is authorized to increase fees to cover the operating expenses of the department for the continued implementation of the accidental release prevention program. ~~The fee increase shall be implemented by increasing, on an average of four and one-half percent, existing fees assessed by the department pursuant to its fee schedules under the air quality control program. The fee schedule shall be based on industrial groups that reflect the degree that these are to be regulated under the accidental release prevention program.~~

* * *

§2195.3. Source of funding; limitations on disbursements from the Tank Trust Account; limit on amount in Tank Trust Account

* * *

B. All owners of motor fuel underground storage tanks storing new or used motor oil shall pay to the secretary a fee not to exceed two hundred seventy-five three hundred dollars per eligible underground motor fuel storage tank per year. Late fees shall be established by the department by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. Failure to pay the prescribed fee as provided herein, within ninety days after the due date, shall constitute a violation and shall subject the person to applicable enforcement actions under the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, including but not limited to revocation or suspension of the applicable permit, license, registration, or variance.

* * *

§2289.1. Requests for review, investigation, and oversight; fees

* * *

D. The department is hereby authorized to charge and collect a participation fee ~~not to exceed six hundred sixty dollars per application~~ for approval of an investigation plan, and a fee ~~not to exceed six hundred sixty dollars per application~~ for approval of a remedial action plan. The department shall ~~promulgate rules and regulations to provide for reimbursement to the state of the actual direct costs associated with oversight of activities conducted pursuant to this Part, such as review, supervision, investigation, and monitoring. The department may charge and collect only for reasonable and appropriate oversight of activities conducted pursuant to this Part. When the department holds a public hearing, the applicant shall be responsible for the actual costs of the public hearing, including but not limited to building rental, security, court reporter, and hearing officer. These fees shall be adopted by the department by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.~~

* * *

§2351.59. Fees

* * *

B. Licensure, certification, and accreditation fees shall be paid annually. Notification fees are assessed for each lead abatement project. Fees shall be paid upon application to the ~~secretary~~ department and deposited into the Lead Hazard Reduction Dedicated Fund Account, R.S. 30:2351.41.

- C.(1) License and certification fees shall be paid as follows:
- (a) ~~License evaluation fee of five hundred fifty dollars shall be paid by lead contractors fees shall be paid annually.~~
- (b) Certification fees shall be paid annually for the following disciplines:
- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| (i) Lead project supervisor | \$ 275.00 |
| (ii) Lead project designer | \$ 550.00 |
| (iii) Risk assessor | \$ 275.00 |
| (iv) Lead inspector | \$ 165.00 |
| (v) Lead worker | \$ 55.00 |
- ~~(c) Emergency processing for licensure and certification fees shall be one and one-half times the regular processing fee.~~
- ~~(d) (c)~~ The secretary is authorized to establish subcategories within any category.
- ~~(e) A person applying for licensure under more than one category shall pay only the fee for the highest category.~~
- ~~(f) No fees shall be assessed to public entities or employees of public entities for certification.~~
- (2) Accreditation fees for training organizations and instructors shall be paid as follows: annually.
- (a) ~~In-state training organizations (Louisiana domiciliaries):~~
- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (i) Application processing fee | \$ 550.00 |
| (ii) Processing fee per instructor | \$ 55.00 |
| (iii) Emergency processing | 1.5 times the regular fees |
- (b) ~~Out-of-state training organizations (non-Louisiana domiciliaries):~~
- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (i) Application processing fee | \$ 825.00 |
| (ii) Processing fee per instructor | \$ 110.00 |
| (iii) Emergency processing | 1.5 times the regular fees |
- (3) ~~Notification fees will be due upon application as follows: shall be~~

assessed for each lead abatement project. For the lead abatement of a building or other structure, the fee shall be based upon the projected lead-based painted areas to be abated in the abatement project. Areas of lead-contaminated soil associated with the abatement process will be included in the projected square footage for the building or structure.

(a) For the lead abatement of a building or other structure, the fee shall be based upon the projected lead-based painted areas to be abated in the abatement project. Areas of lead-contaminated soil associated with the abatement process will be included in the projected square footage for the building or structure as follows:

- (i) 2000 square feet and under \$ 220.00
- (ii) Each additional increment of 2000 square feet or portion thereof \$ 110.00
- (iii) Revisions to notification fees \$ 55.00
- (b) For the lead abatement of soil only, the fee shall be based upon the projected acreage of the abatement project as follows:
- (i) Half acre or less \$ 220.00
- (ii) Each additional half acre or portion thereof \$ 110.00
- (iii) Revisions to notification fees \$ 55.00
- (c) Emergency notification processing fees will be one and one-half times the regular fees.

(4) Any such formula for fees shall be adopted by the department by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

Section 2. R.S. 37:3154(10) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3154. Board of Certification and Training; powers and duties; certificates; revocation and suspension

* * *

(10) To establish appropriate fees for examination, training, and certification to be paid by the applicant. fees that shall be determined using a formula developed by rules to be based upon the cost of establishing a certification program for operators of solid waste disposal facilities for examination, training, and certification. Any such formula or fees shall be adopted by the department by rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq. The revenue generated from the fees shall be deposited into the Environmental Trust Dedicated Fund Account.

* * *

Section 3. R.S. 30:2014(D)(5) and (6) and 2044(C) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 86

HOUSE BILL NO. 806

BY REPRESENTATIVE LAFLEUR AND SENATORS BARROW, FOIL,
HODGES, MIZELL, AND MORRIS

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:100(B)(2) and (D), relative to hit-and-run driving offenses; to provide for considerations when setting bail for hit-and-run driving offenses; to direct the law enforcement agency responding to a hit-and-run offense to use a certain system to notify all law enforcement agencies of the offense; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:100(B)(2) and (D) are hereby enacted to read as follows:
§100. Hit-and-run driving

* * *

B. For the purpose of this Section:

* * *

(2) “Louisiana Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (LLETS)” means a system that is established and overseen by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police, and provides for statewide dissemination of system-generated notifications to all Louisiana law enforcement agencies.

* * *

D.(1) This Subsection shall be cited as “Jody’s Law”. In all cases alleging a violation of this Section, the court shall use the factors provided in Code of Criminal Procedure Article 316 to set bail. No fixed bail schedule may be used in setting bail.(2) Law enforcement agencies responsible for investigating hit-and-run driving offenses shall adopt protocols and procedures to rapidly notify other law enforcement agencies of all of the following:

- (a) That a hit-and-run offense has occurred.
- (b) If known, whether any injuries were reported.
- (c) If known, the make, model, and license plate number of the vehicle driven by a person who committed a hit-and-run driving offense.
- (d) If known, the direction of travel of the vehicle driven by the person who committed a hit-and-run driving offense.

(3) The law enforcement agency investigating a hit-and-run driving offense shall utilize the Louisiana Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (LLETS) to disseminate the information required by Paragraph (2) of this Subsection.

Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is authorized and directed to

alphabetize and renumber the definitions contained in R.S. 14:100(B) and to correct any cross references to the renumbered paragraphs if necessary.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 87

HOUSE BILL NO. 854

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:463.73(A) and (G) and to enact R.S. 47:463.243 through 463.247, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to establish the “Alzheimer’s Awareness” specialty license plate; to establish the “Lupus Awareness” specialty plate; to establish the “Krewe of Sobek”, the “Mystic Krewe of Imani”, and the “Krewe of Harambee” specialty plates; to provide for the creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to such license plates; to establish the “Huntington High School”, “Haynesville Jr./Sr. High School”, “Lincoln Preparatory School”, and the “Green Oaks Performing Arts Academy” specialty plates; to provide for the creation and application of existing issuance, design, implementation, fee, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to Louisiana parochial, public, and private high school license plates; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:463.73(A) and (G) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:463.243 through 463.247 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§463.73. Special prestige license plates; Louisiana parochial, public, and private high schools

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige license plate for the Louisiana parochial, public, and private high schools which have a minimum of one hundred applicants for such plate. The license plate shall be restricted to passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, and recreational vehicles. The license plate shall be of a color and design selected by the respective high school student council subject to the approval of the respective high school principal, provided that it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3).(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

* * *

G. The secretary shall establish special prestige license plates for Archbishop Hannan High School, Jesuit High School, Mount Carmel Academy, the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Saint Katharine Drexel Preparatory School, Acadiana High School, Baker High School, East Feliciana High School, Glen Oaks High School, Neville High School, Carroll High School, Brusly High School, Port Allen High School, Covington High School, Scotlandville Magnet High School, St. Michael the Archangel High School, St. Mary’s Dominican High School, St. Edmund Catholic School, St. Paul’s School, St. Scholastica Academy, St. Mary’s Academy, Huntington High School, Haynesville Jr./Sr. High School, Lincoln Preparatory School, Green Oaks Performing Arts Academy, and any other parochial, public, or private Louisiana high school in accordance with the provisions of this Section as it was enacted.

* * *

§463.243. Special prestige license plate; Alzheimer’s Awareness

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Alzheimer’s Awareness” plate, provided that there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plate. The plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the Alzheimer’s Association Louisiana Chapter to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include “Alzheimer’s Awareness” and the official purple Alzheimer’s Awareness logo.

C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the Alzheimer’s Association Louisiana Chapter as a charitable donation to the association by the applicant.

F. The secretary shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

§463.244. Special prestige license plate; Lupus Awareness

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Lupus Awareness” plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plates. The license plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the R. Tammy Fleming Lupus Foundation to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include “Lupus Awareness” and the official purple butterfly logo.

C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the R. Tammy Fleming Lupus Foundation as a charitable donation to the association by the applicant.

F. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

§463.245. Special prestige license plate; Krewe of Sobek

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Krewe of Sobek” plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plates. The license plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the captain of the Krewe of Sobek to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include “Krewe of Sobek”.

C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any member in good standing of the Krewe of Sobek.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the Krewe of Sobek. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used solely for the activities of the Krewe of Sobek.

F. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

§463.246. Special prestige license plate; Mystic Krewe of Imani

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Mystic Krewe of Imani” plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plates. The license plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the captain of the Mystic Krewe of Imani to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include “Mystic Krewe of Imani”.

C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any member in good standing of the Mystic Krewe of Imani.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the Mystic Krewe of Imani. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used solely for the activities of the Mystic Krewe of Imani.

F. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

§463.247. Special prestige license plate; Krewe of Hramabee

A.(1) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Krewe of Hramabee” plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plates. The license plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pick up trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

(2) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall create this special prestige license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of the new plates.

B. The secretary shall work in conjunction with the captain of the Krewe of Hramabee to select the color and design of the plate, provided it is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3). The design shall include “Krewe of Hramabee”.

C. The special prestige license plate shall be issued, upon application, to any member in good standing of the Krewe of Hramabee.

D. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of twenty-five dollars that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection E of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

E. The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the Krewe of Hramabee. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used solely for the activities of the Krewe of Hramabee.

F. The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 88

HOUSE BILL NO. 891
BY REPRESENTATIVE JACOB LANDRY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:463.46(B) and (C), 463.53(C) and (D), to enact R.S. 47:463.243, and to repeal R.S. 56:10(B)(8) and (10), relative to reallocation of fees and creation of special prestige license plates associated with wildlife; to provide for the reallocation of fees to the Louisiana Quail Forever organization; to provide for the reallocation of funds to the Louisiana Ducks Unlimited organization; to establish the “Conserve Louisiana” special license plate; to provide for the creation, issuance, design, implementation, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to the license plate; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:463.46(B) and (C) and 463.53(C) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§463.46. Special prestige license plates; Louisiana Quail Forever plate

* * *

B. The charge for this special license plate shall be twenty-six dollars, which shall be assessed every two years in addition to the regular fee charged under the provisions of R.S. 47:463. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of fifty dollars for this special prestige license plate that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection C of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.C.(1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, the revenues realized from the additional twenty-six dollar fee imposed by Subsection B of this Section shall be deposited immediately upon receipt in the state treasury. The state treasurer shall place an amount equal to those revenues in the Conservation Fund, after complying with the requirements of R.S. 56:10(B), and shall credit that amount to the “quail account” which is created within the Conservation Fund through the provisions of R.S. 56:10(B)(10). The annual royalty fee shall be collected by the department and forwarded to the Quail Forever organization, to be used solely for the conservation of quails and their habitats in Louisiana. The monies received from the royalty fees shall be used solely to support the activities of the Quail Forever organization. The purchaser of the plate shall be classified as a member of the Quail Forever and will receive an annual membership.

(2) Five percent of the net proceeds from the twenty-six dollar fee imposed by Subsection B of this Section shall be used to promote the existence of the Louisiana Quail Forever prestige license plate and its availability for use on passenger vehicles:

* * *

§463.53. Special prestige license plates; Ducks Unlimited

* * *

C. The charge for this special license plate shall be fifty dollars in addition to the regular fee charged under the provisions of R.S. 47:463. The department shall collect an annual royalty fee of fifty dollars for this special prestige license plate that shall be disbursed in accordance with Subsection D of this Section. This fee shall be in addition to the standard motor vehicle license tax imposed by Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and a handling fee of three dollars and fifty cents for each plate to be retained by the department to offset a portion of administrative costs.

D. The revenues realized from the additional fifty-dollar fee imposed by Subsection C of this Section shall be remitted to the state as provided by law. The state treasurer shall place an amount equal to those revenues in the

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words under-scored (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

person as evidence at the criminal trial.
D. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to prohibit the right of confrontation of a defendant in a criminal proceeding before the court.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 92

HOUSE BILL NO. 1040
BY REPRESENTATIVE FIRMENT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:1105.1(A), relative to the Central Louisiana Juvenile Detention Center Authority; to provide relative to the membership of the board of commissioners of the authority; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 15:1105.1(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

- §1105.1. Board of commissioners; appointment; terms
A. The Central Louisiana Juvenile Detention Center Authority ~~shall be~~ is governed by a commission which shall control, administer, and manage ~~its~~ the affairs of the authority. The commission shall be composed of a board of seven commissioners. ~~There shall be one~~ One commissioner ~~shall be~~ appointed from each of the seven parishes within the territory of the authority and each ~~commissioner~~ shall be a qualified elector ~~and who is~~ domiciled in the parish for which he is appointed. ~~They~~ Each commissioner shall be appointed for ~~terms a term~~ of four years, as follows:
(1) ~~Two commissioners shall be appointed by the judges exercising juvenile jurisdiction within the participating parishes.~~
(2) ~~Two commissioners shall be appointed by the sheriffs of the participating parishes.~~
(3) ~~One commissioner shall be appointed by the chiefs of police of municipalities within the participating parishes.~~
(4) ~~Two commissioners shall be appointed by the district attorneys with jurisdiction in the participating parishes.~~(1) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing within Avoyelles Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney for the Twelfth Judicial District and the sheriff of Avoyelles Parish for an initial term of four years.
(2) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing in Catahoula Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney for the Seventh Judicial District and the sheriff of Catahoula Parish for an initial term of four years.
(3) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing in Concordia Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney for the Seventh Judicial District and the sheriff of Concordia Parish for an initial term of four years.
(4) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing within Grant Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney of the Thirty-Fifth Judicial District and the sheriff of Grant Parish for an initial term of four years.
(5) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing in LaSalle Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney for the Twenty-Eighth Judicial District and the sheriff of LaSalle Parish for an initial term of four years.
(6) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing in Vernon Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney for the Thirtieth Judicial District and the sheriff of Vernon Parish for an initial term of four years.
(7) One commissioner, who shall be a qualified elector domiciled and residing within Winn Parish, shall be jointly appointed by the chief judge and district attorney for the Eighth Judicial District and the sheriff of Winn Parish for an initial term of four years.

* * *

Section 2. The appointment of commissioners for a four-year term provided for in R.S. 15:1105.1(A), as amended and reenacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin on August 1, 2026.
Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 93

SENATE BILL NO. 76
BY SENATOR MILLER (On Recommendation of the Louisiana State Law

Institute)
AN ACT
To enact Civil Code Art. 138, relative to the modification of child custody; to provide with respect to the evidentiary burdens required to modify child custody; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. Civil Code Art. 138 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

- Art. 138. Modification of custody award**
A. When a court has awarded custody pursuant to a judgment rendered by considered decree, the award may be modified by the court within the period of five years after the date of the judgment, in accordance with the best interest of the child, only upon proof of either of the following:
(1) By clear and convincing evidence that the harm likely to be caused by a change of custody is substantially outweighed by the advantages to the child.
(2) That the continuation of the present custody award is so harmful to the child as to justify modification.
B. After five years have elapsed from the date of a judgment rendered by considered decree, and in all other cases, an award of custody may be modified by the court upon a change in circumstances that materially affects the welfare of the child if the modification is in the best interest of the child.
C. A judgment is “rendered by considered decree” when the trial court receives evidence of parental fitness to exercise care, custody, and control of a child and enters a final and appealable judgment based on its evaluation of that evidence.

Revision Comments – 2026
(a) This revision codifies the standard set by the Louisiana Supreme Court for modification of custody orders pursuant to considered decrees in *Bergeron v. Bergeron*, 492 So. 2d 1193, 1200 (La. 1986), with modifications. It also codifies the existing, and lesser, standard for modifying consent decrees. See, e.g., *McCorvey v. McCorvey*, 916 So. 2d 357, 370-71 (La. App. 3 Cir. 2005). This revision is not intended to abrogate the jurisprudence interpreting *Bergeron*; rather, it is intended to add clarity by codifying the *Bergeron* standard and by calling attention to the often jurisprudentially overlooked alternative weighing standard set forth in *Bergeron*.
(b) Louisiana jurisprudence explains that a consent decree subject to the best interest standard is one made through “a stipulated judgment, such as when the parties consent to a custodial arrangement, and no evidence of parental fitness is taken.” Alternatively, a considered decree is one “wherein the trial court receives evidence of parental fitness to exercise care, custody, and control of a child.” *McCorvey v. McCorvey*, 916 So. 2d 357, 370-71 (La. App. 3 Cir. 2005); see also *Evans v. Lungrin*, 708 So. 2d 731 (La. 1998). Some Louisiana courts have noted that judgments may be the result of “hybrid” proceedings, as when the court received some evidence of parental fitness, but the parties enter into a stipulated judgment prior to the court’s ruling. Such judgments should be treated under the modification standard applicable to consent decrees. *McCorvey, supra* at 371.
(c) The use of “in all other cases” in Paragraph B of this Article contemplates application of the lesser evidentiary standard to modification of a consent decree, a considered decree once five years have elapsed from the date of that decree, and a judgment as a result of hybrid proceedings.
(d) The change in circumstances described in Paragraph B of this Article refers to a change that materially affects the child’s welfare. *Burns v. Burns*, 236 So. 3d 571, 574 (La. App. 1 Cir. 2017). A parent’s remarriage, engagement, and similar life changes do not necessarily rise to such a level. See *id.*
(e) The standards set forth in this Article apply to modifications of judgments of custody rendered by consent decree or considered decree and generally apply to both physical and legal custody. They do not, however, apply to minor changes, such as a change in visitation of a parent from a Tuesday night to a Wednesday night.
(f) Interim, temporary, or interlocutory custodial orders are not governed by the standards set forth in this Article.
(g) Custodial orders entered by hearing officers, whether interim or otherwise, are not “considered decrees” in accordance with this Article, as they are not custodial awards made by a “trial court.”
(h) On account of the enactment of this Article, Comment (d) of the 1993 Revision Comments to Article 131 has been superseded. This Article should be consulted, as it elaborates upon and modifies jurisprudential treatment of custody modification.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 94

SENATE BILL NO. 114
BY SENATOR HODGES
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plate; to provide for the establishment of the “Foundation for Moral Law” special prestige license plate; to provide for creation, issuance, design, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to such license plates; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 47:463.243 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§463.243. Special prestige license plate: “Foundation for Moral Law”
A. The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall establish a special prestige motor vehicle license plate to be known as the “Foundation for Moral Law” plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plate. The plate shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and vans.
B. The secretary shall determine the design of the plate issued under the provisions of this Section. The design shall include the words “Foundation for Moral Law” and the plate shall be issued, upon application, to any citizen of Louisiana in the same manner as any other motor vehicle license plate when the applicable statutory provisions are met and the department’s electronic vehicle and title registration system is updated to accommodate the creation of new plates.
C. The charge for the special license plate shall be the regular motor vehicle registration license fee charged under the provisions of R.S. 47:463.
D. The secretary shall promulgate and adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Section.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 95

SENATE BILL NO. 162
BY SENATOR SEABAUGH
AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 23:1203.1(K), relative to the workers’ compensation medical treatment schedule; to provide for appeals; to provide for the admissibility of evidence; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 23:1203.1(K) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§1203.1. Definitions; medical treatment schedule; medical advisory council
* * *
K. After the issuance of the decision by the medical director or associate medical director of the office, any party who disagrees with the decision may then appeal by filing a “Disputed Claim for Compensation”, which is LWC Form 1008, within forty-five days of the date of the issuance of the decision. The decision may be overturned when it is shown, by clear and convincing evidence, the decision of the medical director or associate medical director was not in accordance with the provisions of this Section. **The party who filed the appeal shall notify the medical director that he has done so within ten days. The medical director shall compile and forward the entire record used by the medical director in issuing the decision to the district hearing office within fifteen days of receiving the notice. The record shall be made available to the parties upon request. At the hearing on the appeal, if no evidence in addition to the record is introduced, the workers’ compensation judge shall either affirm or reverse the decision of the medical director based upon the record that was before the medical director. If additional evidence that was not submitted to the medical director is introduced at the hearing, then the judge shall remand the case to the medical director for consideration of the additional evidence. Following remand, the medical director shall render a new decision after considering the additional evidence within thirty days of the remand. If the medical director takes no action within thirty days of the remand order, the judge shall decide the appeal based upon the entire record.**
* * *
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 96

SENATE BILL NO. 191
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 47:2153(C)(1)(a), 2201(B), 2207(A) and (E), and 2266.1(A)(1) and to repeal R.S. 47:2207 as amended and reenacted by Section 2 of Act No. 411 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, relative to the assessment, payment, and allocation of ad valorem taxes; to provide for advertisements for tax lien auctions; to provide for ordinances related to the sale or donation of adjudicated property and the adjudication period thereof; to provide for the act of sale or donation of adjudicated property; to provide for the procedure to recognize amounts due under a tax lien certificate; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 47:2153(C)(1)(a), 2201(B), 2207(A) and (E), and 2266.1(A)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§2153. Notice of delinquency; tax lien holder; tax lien auction
* * *

C.(1)(a) At the expiration of twenty days’ notice, counting from the day when the last of the written notices are sent, or as soon thereafter as practicable,
THE ADVOCATE * As it appears in the enrolled bill
PAGE 43

the tax collector shall proceed to publish a notice of the delinquency and to advertise for auction the consolidated delinquent tax list under one form **two times within thirty days** in the official journal of the political subdivision. The publication and advertisement shall be sufficient if it is in the following form:
“DELINQUENT TAX AND STATUTORY IMPOSITION LIST
_____ vs. Delinquent Tax Debtors
(insert appropriate taxing bodies)
By virtue of the authority vested in me by the constitution and the laws of the state of Louisiana, I will sell by public auction, at _____, beginning at _____ o’clock a.m. on _____, the _____ day of _____, ____, and continuing on each succeeding legal day, until the auction is completed, the tax lien. I will issue in favor of the winning bidder and record in the mortgage records a tax lien certificate to all immovable property on which taxes are now due to _____, to enforce collection of taxes (insert affected taxing bodies) assessed in the year ____, together with interest thereon from January 1, ____, at a rate not to exceed one percent (1%) per month on a noncompounding basis until paid and all costs. The names of the delinquent tax debtors, the amount of statutory impositions due, including any due for prior years, and the immovable property assessed to each for which a tax lien certificate will be issued are as follows: (Insert names of delinquent tax debtors in alphabetical order, the amount of statutory impositions due, including any due for prior years on each specific piece of property, and the description of each specific piece of immovable property for which a tax lien certificate will be issued.)
At the auction, I will sell the tax lien to the winning bidder. The sale will be for cash or other payment method acceptable to the tax collector, in legal tender money of the United States.
At any time prior to the institution of an action to enforce the tax lien, the tax lien may be extinguished by paying the price paid at auction together with interest at the rate established at the tax lien auction which shall not exceed one percent (1%) per month on a noncompounding basis computed on the amount paid at auction by the tax lien certificate purchaser until terminated, a penalty at the rate of five percent (5%), and costs reimbursable pursuant to R.S. 47:2156. The termination payment shall also include the amount of any subsequent parish and municipal statutory impositions paid by the tax lien certificate holder, together with the applicable five percent (5%) penalty and any applicable interest computed on the statutory impositions at a rate of one percent (1%) per month on a noncompounding basis.”
* * *
§2201. Ordinance; sale or donation of adjudicated property; sale of tax lien held by a political subdivision; issuance of a tax lien certificate for adjudicated property; sale of immovable property to enforce a tax lien held by a political subdivision
* * *
B. A political subdivision may adopt ordinances which convert **tax sale** title to adjudicated property held by the political subdivision to a tax lien certificate issued to **in favor of** the political subdivision. The political subdivision shall file a tax lien certificate with the recorder of mortgages for the parish in which the property is located. For purposes of **Subsection C of this Section** and R.S. 47:2266.1(A), ~~adjudicated property may be converted to a tax lien certificate property, and the period of adjudication may be included in the three-year period required for the tax lien certificate. If the conversion occurs~~ **ordinance is adopted more than three years** after three years from the recordation of the adjudication with the recorder of conveyances of the parish in which the property is located, ~~the property may be sold after compliance with the post tax lien notice requirements in R.S. 47:2156~~ **enforcement of the tax lien may commence immediately after recordation of the tax lien certificate and satisfaction of any other requirements imposed by the provisions of this Subpart and the ordinance.**
* * *
§2207. ~~Act of sale or donation; of adjudicated property; sale of immovable property to enforce a tax lien held by a political subdivision; authentication recordation; form~~
A.(1) Following the sale or donation of adjudicated property, at any time after the expiration of the sixty-day or six-month periods, as applicable, set forth in R.S. 47:2206(A) and, if applicable, upon the satisfaction of any terms or conditions required in the ordinance authorizing the sale or donation, the ~~acquiring person~~ **transferee of the property**, or his successors and assigns, may send to the political subdivision a written notice requesting that the political subdivision ~~authenticate the~~ **execute an act of** sale or donation. The political subdivision shall ~~authenticate~~ **execute** the **act of** sale or donation within ten days from the date of the request or as soon thereafter as practicable.
(2) Immediately following the public sale of immovable property to enforce a tax lien held by a political subdivision and, if applicable, upon the satisfaction of any terms or conditions imposed by the ordinance authorizing the public sale, the political subdivision shall execute in favor of the winning bidder an act of sale. Except as otherwise provided in R.S. 47:2268(B), the sale shall operate to terminate all interests in the immovable property.
(3) A transferee of immovable property in accordance with this Subpart shall ~~be responsible for filing~~ **file** the act of sale or donation ~~and for recordation in the conveyance records of the parish in which the property is located and shall be responsible for the~~ payment of all filing fees. The only warranty owed by the political subdivision shall be a warranty against eviction resulting from a prior alienation by the political subdivision. Otherwise, all sales and donations shall be without warranty, either expressed or implied, even as to return or reduction of the purchase price, including without limitation the

warranty against redhibitory defects or vices and the warranty that the thing sold is reasonably fit for its ordinary purpose or the transferee's intended or particular purpose. These waivers or exclusions of warranties shall be self-operative regardless of whether the waivers or exclusions are contained in the act of sale or donation, and regardless of whether they are clear and unambiguous, and regardless of whether they are brought to the attention of the transferee. This provision supersedes the requirements of any other law.

E. A certified copy of the **act of** sale or donation shall be prima facie evidence of the regularity of all matters dealing with the sale or donation and the validity of the sale or donation as reflected in the information contained therein.

§2266.1. Procedure to recognize amounts due under tax lien certificate
A.(1) Upon the ~~expiration of the later of either the expiration of three years from recordation of the tax lien certificate; or the tax sale certificate if R.S. 47:2201(B) is applicable, or the expiration of six months after providing the notices required by~~ **from compliance with the notice requirements of** R.S. 47:2156, a certificate holder may, by verified petition, institute in a court of competent jurisdiction, as determined by the value of the immovable property described and not by the value of the delinquent obligation, an ordinary proceeding seeking recognition of the delinquent obligation and the lien and privilege evidenced by the tax lien certificate. The petition shall name as a defendant each owner of the property shown in the conveyance records.

Section 2. R.S. 47:2207 as amended and reenacted by Section 2 of Act No. 411 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana is hereby repealed.

Section 3. During the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, Sections 1 and 2 of Act No. 411 amended and reenacted R.S. 47:2207. It is the intent of the Legislature that R.S. 47:2207 as amended and reenacted by Section 1 of Act No. 411 shall control. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby directed to print the provisions of R.S. 47:2207 as they appear in Section 1 of Act No. 411 as amended by this Act and no longer print those provisions as they appear in Section 2 of Act No. 411.

Section 4. The provisions of R.S. 47:2153 as amended by Section 1 of this Act shall apply to tax lien auctions occurring on or after January 1, 2027.

Section 5. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 97

SENATE BILL NO. 196
BY SENATOR FOIL
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:337.51(A)(1), the introductory paragraph of (2), and (3), and the introductory paragraph of (B)(1), 337.53(C), the introductory paragraph of 1516.1(B) and 1516.1(B)(3), 1565(A) and (B), and 1625(A) and (B), relative to the notice of assessment and disallowance of a refund claim; to provide the time period for appealing a notice of assessment for local sales and use taxes; to provide the time period for appealing a notice of assessment when the tax is in jeopardy for local sales and use taxes; to provide for the time period for appealing a notice of assessment issued by the Department of Revenue; to provide for the time period for assessment of a collection fee by the Department of Revenue; to provide for the time period to appeal the disallowance of a refund claim by the Department of Revenue; to provide relative to authorized changes of address by the Department of Revenue; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:337.51(A)(1), the introductory paragraph of (2), and (3), and the introductory paragraph of (B)(1), 337.53(C), the introductory paragraph of 1516.1(B) and 1516.1(B)(3), 1565(A) and (B), and 1625(A) and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

- §337.51. Notice of assessment and right to appeal
- A.(1) Having assessed the amount determined to be due, the collector shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer against whom the assessment is imposed at the address given in the last report filed by the taxpayer, or to any address obtainable from any private entity which will provide such address free of charge or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from the United States Postal Service certified software. This notice shall inform the taxpayer of the assessment and the right to do any of the following:
- (a) Pay the amount of the assessment within **sixty ninety** calendar days from the date of the notice.
- (b) Appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals for redetermination of the assessment within **sixty ninety** calendar days from the date of the notice.
- (c) Pay under protest in accordance with R.S. 47:337.63 within **sixty ninety**

calendar days from the date of the notice, and then either file suit or file a petition with the Board of Tax Appeals, all as provided for in that Section.

- (d) Agree in writing with the collector to a mediation within fifteen calendar days from the date of the notice pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 47:337.51.1.
- (2) If no report has been timely filed, the collector shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer against whom the assessment is imposed at any address obtainable from any private entity which will provide such address free of charge or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from the United States Postal Service certified software. This notice shall inform the taxpayer of the assessment and that he has **sixty ninety** calendar days from the date of the notice to do any of the following:

(3) If the taxpayer has not paid under protest in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 47:337.63, or pursued an alternative remedy in accordance with R.S. 47:337.64, or filed an appeal with the Board of Tax Appeals within the **sixty ninety**-day period provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the assessment shall be final and shall be collectible by distraint and sale as provided in this Part. If an appeal for a redetermination of the assessment has been timely and properly filed, the assessment shall not be collectible by distraint and sale until such time as the assessment has been redetermined or affirmed by the Board of Tax Appeals or the court which last reviews the matter.

B.(1) If any dealer disputes any findings or assessment of the collector, he may, within **sixty ninety** days of the receipt of notice of the assessment or finding, do any of the following:

§337.53. Assessment and notice when tax is in jeopardy

C. The taxpayer against whom the assessment lies can stay distraint of his property, or sale of his property already distrained, as the case may be, only by the immediate payment of the assessment or by posting with the collector a surety bond for twice the amount of such assessment, or of a lower amount acceptable to the collector, with such sureties as the collector deems necessary. The taxpayer shall have **sixty ninety** calendar days from the date of payment, or the date of posting bond, to appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals for a redetermination of the assessment. During this period, the collector shall hold any payment made in an escrow account. If the taxpayer does not appeal, the collector shall immediately credit such payment to tax collections or proceed to collect from sureties, if any were given. In the event of an appeal, such payment or demand for payment from sureties given shall be held in abeyance pending the redetermination or affirmation of the assessment by the Board of Tax Appeals or the court which last reviews the matter. Final payment, or collection from sureties, will be for the amount of the affirmed or redetermined assessment.

§1516.1. In-state debt collection

B. Once an obligation has become collectible by distraint and sale, as provided in this Chapter, the secretary shall send a notice to the taxpayer at the address given in the last report filed by ~~said the~~ taxpayer, or to any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software~~ informing him of the following:

(3) That if the debt is not paid within **sixty ninety** days of the date of the notice, a collection fee not to exceed twenty-five percent of the total liability will be charged to the account.

§1565. Notice of assessment and right to appeal

A. Having assessed the amount determined to be due, the secretary shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer against whom the assessment is imposed at the address given in the last report filed by the taxpayer, or to any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal Service certified software~~. However, if the notice is to be mailed to an address outside the United States, the secretary shall send notice by First-Class Mail International with Electronic United States Postal Service Delivery Confirmation. If no report has been timely filed, the secretary shall send a notice by certified mail to the taxpayer against whom the assessment is imposed at any address obtainable from any private entity ~~which will provide such address free of charge or from any federal, state, or local government entity, including but not limited to the United States Postal Service or from United States Postal service certified software~~. However, if the notice is to be mailed to an address outside the United States, the secretary shall send notice by First-Class Mail International with Electronic United States Postal Service Delivery Confirmation. This notice shall inform the taxpayer of the assessment and that he has **sixty ninety** calendar days from the date of the notice to either pay the amount of the assessment or to appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals for a redetermination of the assessment. All such appeals shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 17, Subtitle II of this Title.

B. If the taxpayer has not filed an appeal with the Board of Tax Appeals

within the ~~sixty~~ **ninety** day period, the assessment shall be final and shall be collectible by distraint and sale as hereinafter provided. If an appeal for a redetermination of the assessment has been filed, the assessment shall not be collectible by distraint and sale until such time as the assessment has been redetermined or affirmed by the Board of Tax Appeals or the court which last reviews the matter.

* * *

§1625. Appeals from the collector’s disallowance of refund claim
A.(1) If the collector fails to act on a properly filed claim for refund or credit within one year from the date received by him or if the collector denies the claim in whole or in part, the taxpayer claiming ~~such the~~ refund or credit may appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals for a hearing on the claim filed. No appeal may be filed before the expiration of one year from the date of filing ~~such of the~~ claim unless the collector renders a decision thereon within that time, nor after the expiration of ~~sixty~~ **ninety** days from the date of mailing by ~~registered~~ **certified** mail by the collector to the taxpayer of a notice of the disallowance of the part of the claim to which ~~such the~~ appeal relates.
(2) A taxpayer’s proper appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals within ~~sixty~~ **ninety** days from the date on any notice of disallowance issued shall also establish that the appeal was filed within ~~sixty~~ **ninety** days from the date of ~~certified or registered~~ mailing of the notice.
B. A notice of disallowance, if issued, shall inform the taxpayer that he has ~~sixty~~ **ninety** days from the date of the ~~certified or registered~~ mailing of that notice to appeal to the Board of Tax Appeals, and that any consideration, reconsideration, or action by the collector with respect to ~~such the~~ claim following the mailing of a notice by ~~registered~~ **certified** mail of disallowance shall not operate to extend the period within which an appeal may be taken.

* * *

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to any notice mailed on or after January 1, 2028.
Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 98

SENATE BILL NO. 210
BY SENATOR KLEINPETER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:425(A)(1), relative to election commissioners; to provide for election commissioners at precincts during an election; to provide party primary elections; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 18:425(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§425. Commissioners
A. Number. (1) In addition to the commissioner-in-charge, at the following elections there shall be the following number of additional commissioners at each precinct:
(a) For the gubernatorial primary and general elections, the congressional primary and general elections, the presidential preference primary election, **primary and general elections for party primary offices, fall general elections held on the sixth Saturday after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of a congressional election year,** and the primary and general elections for municipal officers in a parish containing a municipality with a population of four hundred seventy-five thousand or more held every four years beginning in 1994:
(i) Four commissioners for precincts with more than three hundred active registered voters.
(ii) Three commissioners for precincts with three hundred active registered voters or less.
(b) For all elections not specifically provided for in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph or in Part III of Chapter 6 of this Code:
(i) Three commissioners for precincts with more than three hundred active registered voters eligible to vote in the election.
(ii) Two commissioners for precincts with three hundred or fewer active registered voters eligible to vote in the election.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 99

SENATE BILL NO. 305
BY SENATORS EDMONDS, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, CLOUD, HARRIS, HENRY, JENKINS, MORRIS, SEABAUGH, SELDERS AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES BROUSSARD, CARLSON, CARPENTER, CARVER, CHASSION, FREIBERG, TERRY LANDRY, MARTINEZ, ST. BLANC AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:3138.2 and 3138.13(C), relative to the Board of Regents;

to provide for Louisiana Works to collaborate with the Board of Regents to create a statewide dashboard for career alignment; to provide for information on educational and career opportunities; to provide for duties of the Board of Regents; to provide relative to the collection and analysis of data on work-based learning; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.2 and 3138.13(C) are hereby enacted to read as follows:
§3138.2. Degree program and career alignment transparency; postsecondary workforce outcomes dashboard
A. The Board of Regents, in collaboration with postsecondary education management boards, Louisiana Works and other relevant state agencies, shall develop, maintain, and make publicly available a statewide dashboard or series of dashboards that provide information on the alignment between postsecondary degree programs and workforce outcomes in Louisiana.
B. The dashboard or dashboards shall be designed to assist in the following:
(1) Prospective and current students and their families in understanding career outcomes associated with degree programs.
(2) Policymakers and state agencies in evaluating postsecondary program alignment with workforce needs.
(3) Postsecondary institutions in strengthening program design and labor market relevance.
C. To the extent permitted by state and federal law, the dashboard or dashboards may include but shall not be limited to the following information, disaggregated as appropriate:
(1) Degree program completion data.
(2) Employment outcomes following completion, including industry and occupational placement.
(3) Median and range of wages at defined intervals following completion.
(4) Alignment of degree programs with high-demand or priority occupations as identified by the state.
(5) Additional indicators determined by the Board of Regents to be relevant to career alignment and economic development.
D. The Board of Regents shall ensure that the dashboard or dashboards are updated on a regular basis, use consistent and clearly defined metrics, and present information in a manner that is accessible and understandable to the general public.
E. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to:
(1) Require the disclosure of personally identifiable information.
(2) Create performance funding requirements or mandates for postsecondary institutions.
(3) Limit institutional autonomy over curriculum or academic programming.
F. The Board of Regents may adopt rules and enter into data-sharing agreements as necessary to implement this Section, subject to applicable state and federal privacy laws.

* * *

§3138.13. Return on investment analysis; industry-based credentials
* * *
C. The Board of Regents and Louisiana Works shall develop procedures to collect and analyze data on work-based learning through experiences such as internships, cooperative education programs, apprenticeships, or other similar forms of work-based learning. The data collected on work-based learning experiences may include whether the experience is paid or unpaid, the duration of the placement, and whether the placement is part of a registered or credential-aligned program. Any procedures developed by the Board of Regents and Louisiana Works shall ensure the collection and analysis of data necessary to encourage and capture any work-based learning credits an individual may have earned and the appropriate manner in which such credits may be awarded.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 100

SENATE BILL NO. 376
BY SENATORS MIZELL, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, EDMONDS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, LAMBERT, MILLER, MORRIS, SELDERS, STINE, WHEAT AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES BERAULT, BROUSSARD, CARPENTER, CARVER, CHASSION, EGAN, FREIBERG, KNOX, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, PHELPS, TAYLOR, VENTRELLA, WALTERS AND WYBLE
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:81(A)(8), 3996(B)(92), and Chapter 47 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 17:4201 through 4212, relative to local public school boards; to provide relative to the authorization of career practicums in public high schools; to provide for definitions; to provide relative to cooperative endeavor agreements; to provide requirements for career practicums and cooperative endeavor agreements; to provide relative to student labor, safety, and supervision; to provide for reciprocity; to provide relative to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education’s rulemaking authority; to provide for trade and commerce limitations; to provide for exemptions; to provide relative to charter school participation; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 17:81(A)(8), 3996(B)(92), and Chapter 47 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:4201 through 4212, are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§81. General powers of local public school boards
A.(1) Each local public school board shall serve in a policymaking capacity that is in the best interests of all students enrolled in schools under the board's jurisdiction. When establishing board policies, each board shall prioritize student achievement, financial efficiency, and workforce development on a local, regional, and statewide basis. When choosing a local superintendent of schools, each board shall select a leader who shall prioritize student achievement and act in the best interests of all students enrolled in schools under the board's jurisdiction.

(8) Each local public school board shall have the authority to establish, operate, or enter into agreements for the operation of career practicums pursuant to R.S. 17:4201 et seq.

§3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

(92) Career practicums, R.S. 17:4201 et seq.

CHAPTER 47. CAREER PRACTICUMS

§4201. Short title
This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the “Learn and Earn Act”.
§4202. Legislative findings and intent
A. The legislature finds that Louisiana's long-term workforce competitiveness depends on the development of a coherent, statewide talent development system.
B. Compensated, credit-bearing work-based learning aligned with the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) approved career pathways is a critical component of such a system.
C. Reliance solely on external employer work sites creates inequitable access to work-based learning for rural students and students in underserved communities.
D. Career practicums, as provided for in this Chapter, shall serve an essential educational purpose by advancing established state objectives related to career and technical education, financial literacy, employability skills, and workforce development.

E.(1) A career practicum shall operate pursuant to a cooperative endeavor agreement that complies with Article VII, Section 14 of the Constitution of Louisiana and meets the requirements of the Cabela's test as held in Board of Directors of Indus. Development Bd. of City of Gonzales, Louisiana, Inc. v. All Tax Payers, Property Owners, Citizens of City of Gonzales, et al., 938 So.2d 11 (La. 9/6/06).
(2) In order to satisfy the Cabela's test, a career practicum must serve a valid public purpose; be an enforceable, nongratuitous obligation; and there must be a reasonable expectation of value equal to or greater than the value of public assets provided.
(3) Compliance with the Cabela's test is mandatory and shall be demonstrated through the cooperative endeavor agreement.

§4203. Definitions
As used in this Chapter, the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
(1) “Business partner” means a private business entity, financial institution, or nonprofit organization that enters into a cooperative endeavor agreement with a city, parish, or other local school board to operate a career practicum.
(2) “Career practicum” means a limited scope educational franchise operation conducted on a public high school campus pursuant to a cooperative endeavor agreement, whose primary purpose is to deliver compensated, credit-bearing work-based learning, aligned with BESE-approved career pathways, and related instruction.
(3) “Fair market value” means the value of public assets, services, or resources made available to a business partner, including space, utilities, equipment, or other measurable benefits, calculated pursuant to BESE- approved methodology using commercially reasonable valuation principles.
(4) “Instructional scope” means the defined operational boundaries of a career practicum that are directly tied to instructional objectives, including pathway aligned activities, financial literacy instruction, employability skill development, and compensated work-based learning.
(5) “Student participant” means a student enrolled in a BESE-approved, work-based learning course who participates in a career practicum and is compensated as an employee of the business partner.
(6) “Hazardous occupation” shall mean any occupation or activity prohibited for minors under the provisions of the Louisiana Works rules governing the employment of minors.

§4204. Authorization; limited-scope model
A. A city, parish, or other local school board may establish and host one or more

career practicums on Louisiana public high school campuses in accordance with this Chapter.

B. A career practicum shall operate exclusively within the instructional scope defined in its cooperative endeavor agreement and shall not engage in general commercial activity unrelated to instructional purposes.
C. Career practicums shall align with BESE-approved career pathways and integrate financial literacy and employability skill development.
D. Any student participating in a career practicum under this Chapter who performs a credit-bearing internship experience aligned to a BESE-approved career pathway shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements for an internship for purposes of the state school and district accountability system, as defined by rules of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
E. A business partner shall provide reciprocity under the cooperative endeavor agreement that meets or exceeds the fair market value of public assets utilized and shall fulfill all educational obligations established in the agreement.
F. Career practicums may provide customer-facing services only to the extent such services fall within the instructional scope established in the cooperative endeavor agreement.
G. Career practicums operating solely within the instructional scope of a compliant cooperative endeavor agreement shall be deemed instructional functions of the city, parish, or other local school board and shall not be classified as commercial tenants.
H. Any employee, agent, or representative of a business partner who has direct and unsupervised interaction with students participating in a career practicum shall be subject to the same criminal background check and eligibility requirements applicable to school employees and instructors pursuant to applicable state law and policy of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
I. Where a career practicum includes limited customer-facing services within the instructional scope, the city, parish, or other local school board shall retain full authority to regulate campus access consistent with existing safety and visitor policies. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to require general public access to school campuses.
§4205. Cooperative endeavor agreements
A. Each career practicum shall operate pursuant to a written cooperative endeavor agreement between the city, parish, or other local school board and the business partner.
B. The agreement shall include but not be limited to the following:
(1) A declaration of the essential educational and public purpose served.
(2) Enforceable, nongratuitous obligations of the business partner.
(3) An inventory and valuation of public assets utilized, including a fair market value schedule.
(4) A reciprocity schedule demonstrating a reasonable expectation that benefits provided by the business partner meet or exceed fair market value.
(5) Annual fair market value recertification.
(6) A clear statement of instructional scope and operating parameters.
(7) Liability insurance naming the city, parish, or other local school board and the state as additional insureds.
(8) Indemnification of the city, parish, or other local school board and the state.
(9) Safety, supervision, and training requirements.
(10) Compliance with applicable federal and state laws governing student data privacy, child labor, workplace safety, and accessibility.
C. Each cooperative endeavor agreement shall be public record and posted on the website of the city, parish, or other local school board.
D. Nothing in this Chapter shall limit the authority of a city, parish, or other local school board to oversee, monitor, or evaluate the operations of a career practicum.
§4206. Student labor, safety, and supervision
A. Student participants shall:
(1) Earn academic credit pursuant to BESE rules.
(2) Receive wages at or above the applicable minimum wage.
(3) Be employees of the business partner for wage and workers' compensation purposes.
(4) Receive required safety training prior to participation.
(5) Be prohibited from engaging in hazardous occupations barred for minors.
B. Career practicums shall be structured so that student participants are the primary beneficiaries of the educational experience.
C. Career practicums shall comply with all applicable school safety, supervision, and visitor access requirements.
§4207. Reciprocity and restricted use of funds
A. Business partners shall provide reciprocity as established in the cooperative endeavor agreement, meeting or exceeding fair market value requirements.
B. Any funds provided to a city, parish, or other local school board as reciprocity or compensation shall be deposited into a restricted Career Practicum Fund and used solely for work-based learning, instructional equipment, or related educational purposes.
§4208. Rulemaking authority; limitations
The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this Chapter in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. Such rules shall implement but not waive, narrow, or redefine the statutory requirements of instructional scope, fair market value valuation, reciprocity, or student protections established in this Chapter.
§4209. Trade and commerce limitation
A career practicum operating solely within the instructional scope of a compliant cooperative endeavor agreement shall not be deemed to be engaged

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underlined (House Bills) and underscoring and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

in trade or commerce for purposes of R.S. 51:1401 et seq.
§4210. Proprietary school exemption
A career practicum authorized under this Chapter shall be deemed an extension of public educational programming and shall not be classified as a proprietary school pursuant to R.S. 17:3140.1 et seq.
§4211. Charter school participation
A charter school governing authority may authorize a career practicum on its campus in accordance with applicable charter law and the school’s charter contract. Where the career practicum involves the use of facilities or property owned by a city, parish, or other local school board or other public entity, any cooperative endeavor agreement required under this Chapter shall be executed in a manner consistent with applicable law governing such property.
§4212. Existing programs
A. On-campus business operations or work-based learning programs lawfully operating on Louisiana public high school campuses prior to the effective date of this Act may continue, provided they serve an educational purpose and comply with Article VII, Section 14 of the Louisiana Constitution.
B. Beginning with the 2029-2030 school year, all programs subject to Subsection A of this Section shall be in compliance with all other provisions of this Chapter.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 11, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State
