ACTS OF 2026 LEGISLATURE

ACTS 197-343

ACT No. 197

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SENATE BILL NO. 2
BY SENATOR KLEINPETER AND REPRESENTATIVE LACOMBE
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 977 in Pointe Coupee Parish as "The Falcons Band Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Louisiana Highway 977, also known as Valverda Road, beginning on the Pointe Coupee side of the parish line between Pointe Coupee and Iberville parishes, extending through Pointe Coupee Parish and ending at the intersection of Maringouin Road West, is hereby designated as "The Falcons Band Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 198

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SENATE BILL NO. 19
BY SENATOR PRICE AND REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:463.142(A), (B), and (E), relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to provide for the creation, issuance, design, and fee disbursement of the "RSEA" specialty prestige license plate; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:463.142(A), (B), and (E) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§463.142. Special prestige license plate; "~~State Employee Retired~~ **RSEA**"

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 "~~State Employee Retired~~ **RSEA**" plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for such plates. These license plates shall be restricted to use on passenger cars, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles, and vans.

B. The special prestige license plate shall be known as the "~~State Employee Retired~~ **RSEA**" license plate and shall bear the likeness of the shape of the state of Louisiana centered on the left side of the license plate and shall display the state seal centered inside of the outline of the state shape. The ~~words~~ **word** "~~State Employee Retired~~ **RSEA**" shall be centered under the "Louisiana" name logo at the top of the plate. The center of the plate shall display a number, with the first issued plate displaying the number one and shall continue in consecutive numerical order for each plate. Centered at the bottom of the plate below the number shall be ~~the words "Louisiana State Employees Retirement System"~~ **the RSEA logo**.

* * *

E. The monies received from the additional twenty-five dollar fee shall be annually disbursed to the ~~Louisiana State Employees Retirement System and used solely for the purpose of paying down a portion of the state's unfunded liability obligation~~ **RSEA Foundation, Inc**.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 199

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 24
BY SENATORS CONNICK, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BARTHELEMY, BASS, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CLOUD, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, MYERS, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, REESE, SEABAUGH, SELDERS, STINE, TALBOT, WHEAT AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES BOUDREAUX, BOURRIAQUE, BOYER, BROUSSARD, CHASSION, DICKERSON, FONTENOT, MOORE, MURRAY, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, WALTERS AND WILEY
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate Interstate 49 in the state of Louisiana as "Senator J. Bennett Johnston Jr. Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Interstate 49 in its entirety in the state of Louisiana beginning where Interstate 49 intersects with Interstate 10 in Lafayette Parish, extending north through the state of Louisiana, is hereby designated as "Senator J. Bennett Johnston Jr. Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall not cause any other state highway designation along Interstate 49 to be repealed or replaced. The department shall not remove any state highway designations currently provided for in law along Interstate 49 due to any provision within this Act and unless specific legislation succeeding this Act is enacted to require the removal.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 200

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SENATE BILL NO. 44
BY SENATOR SEABAUGH
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1379.1.6(E), relative to tactical medical professionals; to provide relative to firearms and ammunition carried by tactical medical professionals; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:1379.1.6(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1379.1.6. Tactical medical professionals

* * *

E. The appointing law enforcement agency shall ~~issue~~ **approve** any firearm or ammunition that the tactical medical professional carries in accordance with this Section.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 201

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 46
BY SENATORS REESE, ABRAHAM, BARROW, CLOUD, KLEINPETER, MIGUEZ AND MORRIS AND REPRESENTATIVE KNOX
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:93.6, relative to offenses affecting the health and safety of persons with infirmities; to create the crime of unlawful operation of a group home; to provide for elements of the crime; to provide for definitions; to provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:93.6 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§93.6. Unlawful operation of a group home

A. It shall be unlawful for any person or entity to operate an unlicensed group home.

B. For purposes of this Section:

(1) "Affiliate" means any person or entity contracted with, employed by, or acting in conjunction with an operator.

(2) "Nonrelated individuals" means two or more individuals who are not related by consanguinity, marriage, or adoption.

(3) "Operator" means any person or entity that owns or manages an unlicensed group home in any manner.

(4) "Residents" means nonrelated individuals who reside in a single dwelling and receive assistance with the activities of their daily living.

(5) "Unlicensed group home" means any residence not licensed or permitted by any state or local licensing or permitting authority that houses two or more residents over whom the operator exercises control in any manner, or control over the residents' assets. A showing that the operator or an affiliate of the operator has obtained power of attorney over any resident's assets, is the payee or otherwise directly or indirectly receives any federal or state government

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

benefits on behalf of any resident, or is any resident's responsible party, responsible representative, or representative payee on any government benefit received on behalf of the resident, is sufficient to prove the operator exercises control over the resident or his assets. For purposes of this Section, rental payments received from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and security deposits paid pursuant to the lease agreement shall not be considered assets.

C. Whoever violates this Section shall be sentenced as follows:

(1) If the conditions in the unlicensed group home would not lead to unjustifiable pain or suffering, the offender shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

(2) Where the conditions in the unlicensed group home would likely lead to or actually caused unjustifiable pain, malnourishment, or suffering while a resident resided in the home, the offender shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars, or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than ten years, or both. At least one year of the sentence imposed shall be served without the benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.

(3) Where the conditions in the unlicensed group home contributed to a resident's death, the offender shall be imprisoned, at hard labor, for not less than five years nor more than forty years. At least three years of the sentence imposed shall be served without benefit of probation or suspension of sentence.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 202

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 50
BY SENATOR FESI
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate the Bayou Dularge Bascule Bridge in Terrebonne Parish as the "Elward T. Brady, Jr. Memorial Bridge"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the bascule bridge that connects to Louisiana Highway 315 in Terrebonne Parish, that is elevated over the body of water known as Intracoastal Waterway, is hereby designated as the "Elward T. Brady, Jr. Memorial Bridge".

Section 2.(A) The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

(B) To the extent that sufficient additional local or private monies are received, signage provided for by this Act shall also be placed on either side of the bascule bridge for visibility to crossing watercraft.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 203

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 51
BY SENATOR KLEINPETER
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:67.30, relative to misappropriation without violence; to create the crime of fraudulent representation of military service or awards; to provide for elements of the crime; to provide for definitions and penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:67.30 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§67.30. Fraudulent representation of military service or awards

A.(1) A person commits fraudulent representation of military service or awards when he makes a false representation that he has received or otherwise holds a military service record or award that was either revoked or not granted to, achieved by, assigned to, or earned by the person with the intent to injure, defraud, obtain economic gain, advantage, benefit, or secure any privilege for himself or another.

(2) Whoever commits the crime of fraudulent representation of military service or awards shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

B. Whoever commits the crime of fraudulent representation of military service or awards with regard to any of the following military awards or honors shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars, imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than one year, or both:

(1) Congressional Medal of Honor as defined in 18 U.S.C. 704(c)(2).

(2) Distinguished-service cross awarded under 10 U.S.C. 7272.

(3) Navy cross awarded under 10 U.S.C. 8292.

(4) Air Force cross awarded under 10 U.S.C. 9272.

(5) Silver star awarded under 10 U.S.C. 7276, 8294, or 9276.

(6) Purple Heart awarded under 10 U.S.C. 1129.

(7) Combat Action Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, or Combat Action Medal.

(8) A replacement of or duplicate of any of the awards listed in Paragraphs (1) through (7) of this Subsection.

C. Whoever commits the crime of fraudulent representation of military service or awards when the fraudulent representation results in the issuance of a benefit reserved to active duty service members, veterans, or the family members of active duty service members or veterans shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars, imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than five years, or both. In addition, the offender shall be required to pay full restitution of the benefit received in violation of this Subsection.

D. As used in this Section:

(1) "Award" means any medal, service ribbon, ribbon device, badge, rank insignia, or other honor awarded by the armed services or reserve forces of the United States or the national guard of any state.

(2) "Service record" means the actual record compiled and maintained by the armed services or reserve forces of the United States or the national guard of any state that documents the service rank, deeds, achievements, qualifications, or actions performed by a person during his time in service.

(3) "Veteran" means a person who has served in the armed services or reserve forces of the United States or the national guard of any state.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 204

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SENATE BILL NO. 70
BY SENATOR JENKINS AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, BACALA, BAMBURG, BOUDREAUX, BOYER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, CREWS, GREEN, DANA HENRY, HORTON, JACKSON, LACOMBE, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MCCORMICK, MCMAHEN, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, MILLER, MURRAY, OWEN, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN AND WALTERS
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 1 in Caddo Parish as the "Officer Marc Brock Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Louisiana Highway 1, also known as N. Pine St., beginning at Camp Road and ending at W. Moore Street, in the town of Vivian, Louisiana, in Caddo Parish, is hereby designated as "Officer Marc Brock Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 205

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SENATE BILL NO. 87
BY SENATORS MIZELL, ABRAHAM, BARROW, CLOUD, HODGES, KLEINPETER AND MORRIS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:46.2(C)(1) and 46.3(B), relative to human trafficking and trafficking of children for sexual purposes; to provide a consistent definition of "commercial sexual activity"; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:46.2(C)(1) and 46.3(B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§46.2. Human trafficking

* * *

C. For purposes of this Section:

(1) "Commercial sexual activity" means any sexual **or lewd or lascivious** act performed or conducted when anything of value has been given, promised, or received by any person, directly or indirectly, including the production ~~of~~ **or transmission of child sexual abuse materials or** pornography.

* * *

§46.3. Trafficking of children for sexual purposes

* * *

B. For purposes of this Section, "commercial sexual activity" means any **sexual or** lewd or lascivious act **performed or conducted** ~~upon the person or in the presence of any child~~ when ~~any thing~~ **anything** of value has been given, promised, or received by any person**, directly or indirectly, including the production or transmission of child sexual abuse materials or pornography**.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 206

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SENATE BILL NO. 96
BY SENATORS EDMONDS, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BASS, BOUDREAUX, CLOUD, CONNICK, FESI, HENSGENS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, MCMATH, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MORRIS, PRESSLY, PRICE, SEABAUGH, SELDERS, STINE AND WHEAT AND REPRESENTATIVES BOYER, SAWYER AND SCHAMERHORN
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:463.243, relative to motor vehicle special prestige license plates; to establish the "Fallen Heroes" special prestige license plate; to provide for creation, issuance, design, fees, distribution, and rule promulgation applicable to the license plate; 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; "Fallen Heroes"

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 "Fallen Heroes" plate, provided there is a minimum of one thousand applicants for the plates. The license 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 the special prestige 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.

B. Provided the design is in compliance with R.S. 47:463(A)(3), the design shall include the words "Fallen Heroes".

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 Capital Area Law Enforcement Foundation for the purchase of special protective equipment, commonly known as a bulletproof vest, for peace officers in the state of Louisiana.

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 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 207

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 98
BY SENATOR KLEINPETER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:81.4(B)(1), relative to offenses affecting the public morals; to provide relative to prohibited sexual conduct between an educator and student; to provide relative to the definition of "educator"; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:81.4(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§81.4. Prohibited sexual conduct between educator and student

* * *

B. As used in this Section:

(1) "Educator" means any administrator, coach, instructor, paraprofessional, student aide, teacher, ~~or~~ teacher aide**, school resource officer, or security guard** at any public or private school, assigned, employed, or working at the school or school system where the victim is enrolled as a student on a full-time, part-time, or temporary basis.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 208

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 101
BY SENATOR ABRAHAM
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 384 in Cameron Parish as the "Daniel Edward Didelot Memorial Highway"; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 436 in Washington Parish as the "Bill "Bleu" Evans Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the portion of Louisiana Highway 384, beginning at Big Diamond Disposal Road extending to N. Precht Road, situated within Cameron Parish, is hereby designated as the "Daniel Edward Didelot Memorial Highway".

Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the portion of Louisiana Highway 436, beginning at Louisiana Highway 21, extending to E. Old Columbia Road, situated within Washington Parish, is hereby designated as the "Bill "Bleu" Evans Memorial Highway".

Section 3. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of these designations 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 209

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 103
BY SENATORS WOMACK, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BARTHELEMY, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, MYERS, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, REESE, SELDERS, STINE AND WHEAT AND REPRESENTATIVE RISER
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of United States Highway 425 in Wisner, Louisiana, as the "Gladys Edwards Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, United States Highway 425, beginning at the northern city limit and ending at the southern city limit, all situated within the city of Wisner, Louisiana, in Franklin Parish is hereby designated as "Gladys Edwards Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 210

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SENATE BILL NO. 104
BY SENATORS KLEINPETER, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BARTHELEMY, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, PRICE, REESE, WHEAT AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAMBURG, BERAULT, BOUDREAUX, BOURRIAQUE, BOYD, BOYER, BRASS, BRAUD, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARPENTER, WILFORD CARTER, CARVER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, COATES, COX, DESHOTEL, DEVILLIER, DICKERSON, DOMANGUE, EGAN, FISHER, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, GLORIOSO, DANA HENRY, HILFERTY, JACKSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JORDAN, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, JACOB LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MACK, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, MENA, MOORE, MURRAY, NEWELL, PHELPS, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, SPELL, TAYLOR, VENTRELLA, WALTERS, WILDER, WILEY, WYBLE, YOUNG AND ZERINGUE
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 1 in Pointe Coupee Parish as the "Ernest J. Gaines Memorial Highway"; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 16 in Livingston Parish as the "Deputy Katherine "Ms. Katy" Wells Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the portion of Louisiana Highway 1, beginning where Louisiana Highway 1 intersects with Louisiana Highway 78, and ending at the Pointe Coupee Parish line before crossing into Avoyelles Parish, is hereby designated as the "Ernest

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

J. Gaines Memorial Highway".

Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the portion of Louisiana Highway 16, between Louisiana Highway 1033 and Louisiana Highway 1026 in the city of Denham Springs, Livingston Parish, is hereby designated as the "Deputy Katherine "Ms. Katy" Wells Memorial Highway".

Section 3. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of these designations 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 211

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 110
BY SENATORS CLOUD, ABRAHAM, BARROW, CATHEY, EDMONDS, FESI, HODGES, KLEINPETER, MCMATH, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, MYERS, PRESSLY, REESE, SEABAUGH, STINE, WHEAT AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOUDREAUX, CARVER, CHENEVERT, DICKERSON, EGAN, FREIBERG, GALLE, GLORIOSO, HORTON, MIKE JOHNSON, LAFLEUR, LYONS, MELERINE, MILLER, MOORE, OWEN, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, VILLIO, WALTERS, WRIGHT AND WYBLE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 14:81.1(G) and to enact R.S. 14:81.1(A)(3) and (4), relative to offenses affecting the public morals; to provide relative to child sexual abuse materials; to provide relative to the elements of the crime; to prohibit using a child's image to train artificial intelligence to produce child sexual abuse materials; to provide relative to prosecutions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 14:81.1(G) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 14:81.1(A)(3) and (4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§81.1. Child sexual abuse materials

A.(1)

* * *

(3) It shall also be a violation of this Section for a person to use an image of a child under the age of seventeen years at the time the image was created with the intent to train an artificial intelligence model to produce child sexual abuse materials.

(4) It is not a required element of an offense under this Section that the child depicted in the child sexual abuse materials be a natural person.

* * *

G. In prosecutions for violations of this Section, the trier of fact may determine, utilizing the following factors, whether or not ~~the~~ **a natural** person displayed or depicted in any photograph, videotape, film, or other video reproduction introduced in evidence was under the age of seventeen years at the time of filming or recording**, or whether or not the image used to train an artificial intelligence model depicts a person who appears to be under the age of seventeen years**:

(1) The general body growth, bone structure, and bone development of the person.

(2) The development of pubic or body hair on the person.

(3) The development of the person's sexual organs.

(4) The context in which the person is placed or the age attributed to the person in any accompanying video, printed, or text material.

(5) Available expert testimony and opinion as to the chronological age or degree of physical or mental maturity or development of the person.

(6) Such other information, factors, and evidence available to the trier of fact which the court determines is probative and reasonably reliable.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 212

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SENATE BILL NO. 118
BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX AND REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 14:98.1(A)(1) and (A)(1)(b) and the introductory paragraph of 98.2(A)(1) and (A)(1)(b) and to enact R.S. 14:98.1(D), relative to driving offenses; to provide relative to first and second offenses of operating a vehicle while impaired; to provide for probation conditions; to provide for substance use disorder screening; to provide for diagnosis and treatment; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 14:98.1(A)(1) and (A)(1)(b) and the introductory paragraph of 98.2(A)(1) and (A)(1)(b) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 14:98.1(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§98.1. Operating while impaired; first offense; penalties

A.(1) Except as modified by the provisions of Paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Subsection, on a conviction of a first offense violation of R.S. 14:98, the offender shall be fined not less than three hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, and shall be imprisoned for not less than ten days nor more than six months. Imposition or execution of sentence under this Paragraph shall not be suspended unless the offender is placed on probation with the minimum conditions that he complete ~~all of~~ the following:

* * *

(b) Participate in a court-approved substance abuse program, which ~~may~~ **shall** include **a screening to determine if the offender is at risk for a substance use disorder.**

(i) The screening tool shall be evidence-based and validated specifically for the impaired driving population.

(ii) The findings of the screening shall be confidential and shall be reported directly to the court, the prosecuting attorney, and counsel for the defendant.

(iii) If the substance use disorder screening indicates that the offender is at risk of having a substance use disorder, the court may order an assessment **be performed** by a licensed clinician to determine if the offender has a ~~diagnosis of~~ substance ~~abuse~~ **use** disorder.

(iv) Nothing ~~herein~~ **in this Section** shall prohibit the court from modifying ~~the~~ portions of the **substance abuse** program as may be applicable and appropriate to an individual offender as shown by the assessment.

* * *

D. This Section and R.S. 14:98.2 shall be known and may be cited as the "Judge Jules Edwards, III Impaired Driving Prevention Act ".

§98.2. Operating while impaired; second offense; penalties

A.(1) Except as modified by the provisions of Paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this Subsection, or as provided by Subsection D of this Section, on a conviction of a second offense violation of R.S. 14:98, regardless of whether the second offense occurred before or after the first conviction, the offender shall be fined not less than seven hundred fifty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, and shall be imprisoned for not less than thirty days nor more than six months. At least forty-eight hours of the sentence imposed shall be served without benefit of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence. Imposition or execution of the remainder of sentence shall not be suspended unless the offender is placed on probation with the minimum conditions that he complete ~~all of~~ the following:

* * *

(b) Participate in a court-approved substance abuse program, which ~~may~~ **shall** include **a screening to determine if the offender is at risk for a substance use disorder.**

(i) The screening tool shall be evidence-based and validated specifically for the impaired driving population.

(ii) The findings of the screening shall be confidential and shall be reported directly to the court, the prosecuting attorney, and counsel for the defendant.

(iii) If the substance use disorder screening indicates that the offender is at risk of having a substance use disorder, the court may order an assessment **be performed** by a licensed clinician to determine if the offender has a ~~diagnosis of~~ substance ~~abuse~~ **use** disorder.

(iv) Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the court from modifying ~~the~~ portions of the **substance abuse** program as may be applicable and appropriate to an individual offender as shown by the assessment.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 213

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 159
BY SENATORS WOMACK, CATHEY, EDMONDS, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MCMATH, MILLER, SELDERS AND STINE AND REPRESENTATIVE RISER
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 17 in Franklin Parish, as the "Sergeant Rogelio "Roy" Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Louisiana Highway 17, beginning at the intersection of Louisiana Highway 17 and Lawson Road and ending at Louisiana Highway 4, all of which is situated in Franklin Parish is hereby designated as "Sergeant Rogelio "Roy" Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 214

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 160
BY SENATORS SEABAUGH, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BASS, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, MYERS, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, REESE, SELDERS, STINE, TALBOT, WHEAT AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES BOUDREAUX, BOURRIAQUE, BOYER, CHASSION, DICKERSON, MOORE, MURRAY, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, WALTERS AND WILEY
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of United States Highway 171 in Sabine Parish as "Speaker Joe R. Salter Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, United States Highway 171, in the village of Florien, Louisiana, beginning at the northernmost village limit and extending south through the village to the southernmost village limit, in Sabine Parish, is hereby designated as "Speaker Joe R. Salter Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 215

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 182
BY SENATORS WOMACK, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CATHEY, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MIZELL AND SELDERS AND REPRESENTATIVE RISER
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of United States Highway 425 in Franklin Parish as the "Mayor Billy Cobb Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the portion of United States Highway 425, beginning at the northern city limit of Winnsboro and ending at the southern city limit of Winnsboro in Franklin Parish, Louisiana, is hereby designated as the "Mayor Billy Cobb Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 216

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 412
BY SENATOR CLOUD
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 13 in Evangeline Parish as the "Roy Chaffin 'Bayou Boogie' Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the portion of Louisiana Highway 13, beginning at Louisiana Highway 10 and extending to Louisiana Highway 167 in the Village of Turkey Creek, situated within Evangeline Parish, is hereby designated as the "Roy Chaffin 'Bayou Boogie' Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 217

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 418
BY SENATOR SEABAUGH
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 174 in Sabine Parish as "Dick and Jacque Shuford Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Louisiana Highway 174, from the intersection of Highway 174 and Highway 175 in Pleasant Hill, eastbound to the parish line of Sabine Parish, is hereby designated as "Dick and Jacque Shuford Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 218

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 460
BY SENATORS PRESSLY, BASS, JENKINS AND SEABAUGH AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAGLEY, BAMBURG, BEAULLIEU, BERAULT, BOUDREAUX, BOURRIAQUE, BOYD, BOYER, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARRIER, ROBBY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, CARVER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, DESHOTEL, DEVILLIER, DEWITT, DICKERSON, DOMANGUE, EGAN, FIRMENT, GLORIOSO, GREEN, CHANCE HENRY, DANA HENRY, HILFERTY, HORTON, ILLG, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, JORDAN, KERNER, KNOX, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, JACOB LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MACK, MCCORMICK, MCMAHEN, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, MOORE, MURRAY, MUSCARELLO, ORGERON, OWEN, PHELPS, RISER, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, SCHLEGEL, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, TURNER, VILLIO, WRIGHT AND WYBLE
AN ACT

To provide relative to state highways; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 526 in Caddo Parish as "Hayden Lane Mangum Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the department; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Louisiana Highway 526, also known as East Bert Kouns Industrial Drive, beginning at Wrenwood Boulevard and ending on the western side of the Interstate 49 Interchange at Premier Court, all of which is situated in Shreveport, Louisiana, in Caddo Parish, is hereby designated as "Hayden Lane Mangum Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of 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 each sign, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

Approved by the Governor, May 14, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 219

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 502
BY SENATOR CATHEY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:3602(18) and to enact R.S. 3:3602(19) and 3607(E), relative to sugarcane bagasse biomass storage; to provide for definitions; to prohibit certain ordinances; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:3602(18) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 3:3602(19) and 3607(E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3602. Definitions

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

As used in this Part, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

* * *

(18) **"Sugarcane bagasse biomass" means the solid, heterogeneous, fibrous material that remains after extracting the liquid from sugarcane stalks, which may include but is not limited to the following:**

(a) Biomass derived from factory bagasse which is obtained from the industrial extraction process and contains only trace amounts of the sugarcane liquid.

(b) Biomass derived from pressed cane stalks or farm bagasse which is obtained from on-farm or small factory extraction and contains higher amounts of sugarcane liquid.

(c) Dewatered pulp derived from bagasse, recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a fuel pursuant to 40 CFR 241.4.

(19) "Traditional farm practices" means those accepted and customary standards established by similar agricultural operations under similar circumstances using established best management practices. Best management practices for animal feeding operations and confined animal feeding operations shall be determined by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry in conjunction with the LSU AgCenter.

* * *

§3607. Local ordinances

* * *

E. No parish or municipal governing authority may enact or enforce any ordinance prohibiting the storage of sugarcane bagasse biomass when it is stored in accordance with a best management practice plan that has been approved by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry in writing and provided to the Department of Environmental Quality.

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 14, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 220

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 1
BY SENATOR JENKINS AND REPRESENTATIVES BACALA, CARRIER, FISHER, JACKSON, LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, NEWELL AND WALTERS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 42:14(C), relative to the Open Meetings Law; to provide for viva voce voting; to provide for electronic voting; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 42:14(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§14. Meetings of public bodies to be open to the public

* * *

C. All votes made by members of a public body shall be viva voce and shall be recorded in the minutes, journal, or other official, written proceedings of the body, which shall be a public document. **Any vote by an individual member of a public body that is displayed and recorded using electronic machines shall satisfy the concept of viva voce voting requirements of the Open Meetings Law.**

* * *

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be applied retroactively.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 221

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 8
BY SENATOR PRICE
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 11:1732(14)(a)(xiv), relative to participation in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for an additional employer in the system; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1732(14)(a)(xiv) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1732. Definitions

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

* * *

(14)(a) "Employer" or "participating employer" shall mean:

* * *

(xiv) The Louisiana Asset Management Pool.

* * *

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 in 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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 222

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 10
BY SENATOR PRICE AND REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 11:102(B)(1)(a), and 1332.1(B)(1)(d), and to repeal R.S. 11:102(F)(3), 102.4, and 1332, relative to the Louisiana State Police Retirement System; to provide relative to determination of employer contributions; to provide relative to amortization of certain actuarial gains; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 11:102(B)(1)(a), and 1332.1(B)(1)(d) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§102. Employer contributions; determination; state systems

* * *

B.(1)(a) Except as provided in R.S. 11:102.1, 102.2, 102.3, ~~102.4,~~ and 102.5 and in Paragraph (5) of this Subsection, for each fiscal year, commencing with Fiscal Year 1989-1990, for each of the public retirement systems referenced in Subsection A of this Section, the legislature shall set the required employer contribution rate for each system or plan equal to the sum of the following:

* * *

§1332.1. Permanent benefit increase funding account

* * *

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

* * *

(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) 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~~ **shall be amortized based on the amortization period specified in R.S. 11:102(F)(2)**.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 11:102(F)(3), 102.4, and 1332 are hereby repealed.

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 223

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 11
BY SENATOR PRICE AND REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:102(F)(4)(b), relative to the Louisiana State Police Retirement System and to the funding mechanism for payment of benefit increases to persons receiving benefits from the Louisiana State Police Retirement System; to provide for the determination of required employer contributions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:102(F)(4)(b) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§102. Employer contributions; determination; state systems

* * *

F.(1)

* * *

(4)

* * *

(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

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

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~~ **three** and one-half percent. Any increase in the AFC rate shall be permanent. The AFC rate shall not exceed ~~two~~ **three** and one-half percent.

* * *

Section 2. The cost of this Act 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, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 224

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 12
BY SENATOR PRICE AND REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1301, 1305(B), 1307.1(B)(2), 1310(A)(1) and (2)(a), 1333, 1334, and 1345.2(1), relative to the Louisiana State Police Retirement System; to provide for relative definitions; to provide for system administration; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1301, 1305(B), 1307.1(B)(2), 1310(A)(1) and (2)(a), 1333, 1334, and 1345.2(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1301. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following terms have these meanings:

(1) "Board" means the Louisiana State Police Retirement System Board.

(2) "Commission" means the State Police Commission as established by Article X, Section 43 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

~~(2)~~**(3)** "Distributee" means a person who is eligible for benefits pursuant to this Chapter.

~~(3)~~**(4)** "Division" or "office" means the office of state police, Department of Public Safety.

~~(4)~~**(5)** "Fund" means the Louisiana State Police Retirement System Fund.

~~(5)~~**(6)** "Minor Child" means a child of a member of this system who is under the age of eighteen years or who is a student who is under the age of twenty-three years.

~~(6)~~**(7)** "Pension plan" means the defined benefit plan created by this Chapter and administered by the board to provide monthly benefits for retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors.

~~(7)~~**(8)** "Student" means a person in a high school, a vocational-technical school, or a college or university, in a sufficient number of courses and classes in an accredited institution to be classified as a full-time regular student under the criteria used by the institution in which he is enrolled.

~~(8)~~**(9)** "System" means the Louisiana State Police Retirement System.

~~(9)~~**(10)** "Vested" means that a benefit payable to the member at some future time is not forfeitable.

* * *

§1305. Membership in pension and retirement system; credit for unclassified service prohibited; exceptions

* * *

B. Except for the secretary and the deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections who shall be unclassified state employees, all members of the State Police Retirement System shall be classified employees under the ~~state civil service system~~ **commission** and after July 27, 1966**,** no service credit shall be allowed in the system for unclassified service with the office of state police except for service as secretary and deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

* * *

§1307.1. Exceptions

* * *

B.(1)

* * *

(2)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary and specifically the provisions of R.S. 11:1310, the phrase "average salary" as used in this Subsection for the purpose of computing the regular retirement benefits of any member who entered the Deferred Retirement Option Plan based on less than twenty-five years of service shall mean the average salary including any pay or salary provided by the legislature in addition to that pay or salary that is set by ~~either~~ the ~~Civil Service Commission or the State Police Civil Service Commission~~ **commission** for any twelve-month period of service occurring while a member of this system, but limited to the first twenty-five years of state trooper service, regardless of whether such state trooper service occurred before, during, or after participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan. The phrase "average salary" as defined by this Subparagraph shall be used for purposes of computing the regular retirement benefit that is payable based on all service occurring prior to the member's effective date of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan.

(b) Any supplemental regular retirement benefit which is payable based on service which occurs after the member's termination of participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan shall be based on the greater of the average salary as determined in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph or the average salary including any pay or salary provided by the legislature in addition to that pay or salary that is set by ~~either~~ the ~~Civil Service Commission or the State Police Civil Service Commission~~ **commission** for any twelve-month period of service occurring while a member of this system, but limited to the years of service which are attributable to twenty-five or more years of state trooper service.

* * *

§1310. Average salary; method of determining

A.(1) With respect to persons employed prior to September 8, 1978, the term "average salary" as used in this Chapter for the purpose of determining pension payments and retirement is the average salary including any additional pay or salary provided by the legislature over and above that set by the ~~Civil Service Commission~~ **commission**, received for the year ending on the last day of the month immediately preceding the date of retirement or date of death or for any one-year period, whichever is the greatest. For the purposes of computation, "average salary" shall not include overtime, expenses, or clothing allowances.

(2)(a) With respect to persons becoming employed on and after September 8, 1978, and whose first employment making them eligible for membership in one of the state systems occurred on or before December 31, 2010, the term "average salary" as used in this Chapter for the purpose of determining pension payments and retirement is the average salary including any additional pay or salary provided by the legislature over and above that set by the ~~Civil Service Commission~~ **commission**, received for the thirty-six highest months of successive employment, or for the highest thirty-six successive joined months of employment where interruption of service occurred, whichever is the greatest. For the purposes of computation, "average salary" shall not include overtime, expenses, or clothing allowances.

* * *

§1333. Accumulation of annual leave; conversion to membership service

A member shall be allowed to accumulate without limitation all of the member's unused annual leave. When a member retires, or dies while still a member of the fund and before retirement leaving a surviving spouse or dependent, or both, who are entitled to benefits under this Chapter, his unused accumulated annual leave which was earned under ~~civil service~~ **the commission** or administrative rules shall be added to his membership service, the addition to membership service to be on the basis of one work day for each eight hours of unused annual leave. Fractional days of one-half day or more shall be counted as one day and fractional days of less than one-half day shall be disregarded. The member's unused annual leave shall not be used to determine eligibility for retirement, but shall be credited to the member only after it is determined that the member is otherwise eligible for retirement.

§1334. Accumulation of sick leave; conversion to membership service

When a member retires, or dies while still a member and before retirement leaving a surviving spouse or dependent, or both, who are entitled to benefits under this Chapter, his unused accumulated sick leave which was earned under the ~~civil service~~ **commission** or administrative rules shall be added to his membership service, the addition to be on the basis of one work day for each eight hours of unused sick leave. Fractional days of one-half day or more shall be counted as one day but fractional days of less than one-half day shall be disregarded. The member's unused accumulated sick leave shall not be used to determine eligibility for retirement, but shall be credited to the member only after it is determined that the member is otherwise eligible for retirement.

* * *

§1345.2. Application; definitions

Terms not specifically defined in this Section shall have the meanings provided in R.S. 11:1301 unless a different meaning is clearly required by the context. For purposes of this Part:

(1) "Average compensation" means the average annual earned compensation of a member for the sixty highest months of successive employment, or for the highest sixty successive joined months of employment where interruption of service occurred; however, average compensation for part-time employees who do not use sixty months of full-time employment for average compensation purposes shall be based on the base pay the part-time employee would have received had he been employed on a full-time basis. The earnings to be considered for the thirteenth through the twenty-fourth month shall not exceed one hundred fifteen percent of the earnings of the first through the twelfth month. The earnings to be considered for the twenty-fifth through the thirty-sixth month shall not exceed one hundred fifteen percent of the earnings of the thirteenth through the twenty-fourth month. The earnings to be considered for the thirty-seventh through the forty-eighth month shall not exceed one hundred fifteen percent of the earnings of the twenty-fifth through the thirty-sixth month. The earnings for the final twelve months shall not exceed one hundred fifteen percent of the earnings of the thirty-seventh through the forty-eighth month. The limitations on the computation of average compensation contained in this Paragraph shall not apply to any twelve-month period during which compensation increased by more than fifteen percent over the previous twelve-month period solely because of an

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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increase in compensation by a uniform systemwide increase adopted by the ~~state Department of Civil Service~~ **commission** and approved by the governor or because of a pay adjustment enacted by the legislature.

* * *

Section 2. 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 the day following such approval by the legislature or June 30, 2026, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 225

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 13
BY SENATOR PRICE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:102.2(A)(4)(c)(iv), to enact R.S. 11:102.2(A)(5), and to repeal R.S. 11:102.2(A)(4)(c)(v), (e)(ii) and (iii), (h), (i), and (j), relative to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for the calculation of employer contributions, minimum employer contribution rates, amortization of the unfunded accrued liability, and treatment of contribution variances for the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:102.2(A)(4)(c)(iv) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:102.2(A)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§102.2. Amortization payment schedules; priority excess return allocations; Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

A.(1)

* * *

* * *

(4) For purposes of this Section, the following shall apply:

* * *

(c) "Secondary priority amount" shall mean the maximum amount of system returns in excess of the system's actuarially assumed rate of return that may be applied to the experience account amortization base, regardless of whether actual returns that equal or exceed the maximum are available, and shall equal:

* * *

(iv) For the first valuation after the original amortization base is liquidated, ~~the portion of the prior year's primary priority amount that was necessary to liquidate the original amortization base plus the prior year's secondary priority amount, both increased by the percentage increase in the system's actuarial value of assets for the prior year, if any~~ **the provisions of this Paragraph shall terminate**.

* * *

~~(h)~~**(5)(a)** Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of Subparagraph (i) of this Paragraph~~ **any other provision of this Section**, effective for the June thirtieth valuation following the fiscal year in which the system first attains a funded percentage of eighty or more pursuant to R.S. 11:883.1 and for each valuation thereafter, the net remaining liability of ~~the~~ **any** amortization base to which ~~the~~ **any additional** funds are applied shall be reamortized with annual level-dollar payments calculated as provided in R.S. 11:102 over the remainder of the amortization period originally established for that amortization base.

~~(i)~~**(b)** Beginning with the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year and every fifth fiscal year thereafter, the remaining liability net of all payments made since the last reamortization shall be reamortized over the remainder of the amortization period originally established for that amortization base with annual payments calculated as provided for in this Section.

~~(j)~~**(c)** Except as provided in Subparagraphs ~~(h) and (i)~~ **(a) and (b)** of this Paragraph and in Item (B)(3)(a)(iv) of this Section, the net remaining liability of the amortization base to which the funds are applied shall not be reamortized after such application.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 11:102.2(A)(4)(c)(v), (e)(ii) and (iii), (h), (i), and (j) are hereby repealed.

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 in 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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 226

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 16
BY SENATOR PRICE AND REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:185(D)(3), relative to public retirement systems; to provide relative to boards of trustees; to provide for educational requirements for members of such boards; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:185(D)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§185. Educational requirements for members of retirement system boards of trustees

* * *

D.(1)

* * *

(3) Each year, any member to whom this Section applies shall attend at least ~~eight~~ **seven** hours of investment training, ~~four~~ **two** hours of actuarial science information education, ~~two hours~~ **one hour** of education regarding the laws, rules, and regulations applicable to his system, and two hours of instruction on fiduciary duty and ethics. These training hours may be conducted by the staff of the respective retirement systems or by outside experts. Two or more systems may combine any such training. Any member who is elected or appointed to the board for the first time on or after June first shall be required to comply only with the provisions of Paragraph (4) of this Subsection.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on August 31, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval by the legislature or August 31, 2026, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 227

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 17
BY SENATOR TALBOT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:2073, to enact R.S. 11:2145, and to repeal R.S. 11:105(A)(6), 106(A)(4), 107(A)(5), 107.1(A)(5), 242(B)(6), 243(A)(6), and 246(A)(6), relative to the Registrars of Voters Employees' Retirement System; to provide relative to cost-of-living increases; to provide for calculation of the amount of any increase; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:2073 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:2145 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2073. Cost-of-living increase

A. The board of trustees is authorized to use ~~interest earnings on investments of the system in excess of normal requirements, as determined by the actuary,~~ **funds in the funding deposit account** to provide ~~an annual cost of living adjustment~~ **a cost-of-living increase** payable monthly ~~for members retired at least two years, in an amount not to exceed three percent of the original benefit~~ **to retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors, if benefits have been paid on the member's or retiree's record for at least two years, subject to the limitations in this Section**. Such benefits shall be paid only when funds are available from this source, and payments shall be made in such manner and in such amount as is determined by the board of trustees, based on the funds available**, and the board of trustees shall be authorized to set a maximum amount of such benefits. Any cost-of-living increase granted in accordance with this Section shall begin on July first following board approval**.

B.(1) The board may grant a cost-of-living increase in any year in which the system is more than one hundred percent funded.

(2) If the system is not more than one hundred percent funded, the board may grant a cost-of-living increase if:

(a) The system is at least ninety percent funded and the board did not grant an increase in the last fiscal year.

(b) The system is at least eighty percent funded and the board did not grant an increase in the last two fiscal years.

(c) The system is at least seventy percent funded and the board did not grant an increase in the last three fiscal years.

(3)(a) As used in this Section, the funded ratio as of any fiscal year end shall be defined as the ratio of the actuarial value of assets to the level percentage of payroll entry age normal actuarial accrued liability.

(b) For purposes of determining the system's funded ratio pursuant to this Subsection, the actuarial value of assets shall be reduced by the actuarial present value of the cost-of-living increase.

C.(1) The board may grant a cost-of-living increase of up to three percent of the current benefit to all eligible retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors.

(2) In lieu of the form provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the board may grant a cost-of-living increase that is a monthly increase of the benefit of each eligible recipient in a dollar amount that is a multiple or a fraction of the number of years of credited service accrued at retirement of the retiree or at death of the member plus a multiple or a fraction of the number of years since

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

retirement of the retiree or since death of the member to the system's fiscal year end preceding the payment of the benefit increase. The selection of the multiples to be used in this calculation shall not cause the total actuarial present value of this increase to exceed the actuarial present value of an increase granted under Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

D. The board may grant a cost-of-living increase of up to two percent of the current benefit to all eligible retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors who are sixty-five years of age or over. This may be in addition to any other increase the board may grant.

* * *

§2145. Employer contributions; funding deposit account

A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in any fiscal year the board of trustees is authorized to:

(1) Require an employer contribution rate equal to the previous year's employer contribution rate or a rate lower than the previous year's employer contribution rate provided that the lower rate is not less than the employer contribution rate calculated in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 11:103.

(2) Require an employer contribution rate of up to three percentage points more than the rate determined under R.S. 11:103.

B. The funding deposit account established by Act No. 296 of the 2009 Regular Session of the Legislature is continued. All surplus funds collected by the system in any year in which the board exercised the authority in Subsection A of this Section shall be credited to the system's funding deposit account.

C. The funds in the account shall earn interest annually at the board-approved actuarial valuation interest rate, and such interest shall be credited to the account once a year.

D.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board of trustees may in any fiscal year direct that funds from the account be charged for only the following purposes:

(a) To reduce the present value of future normal costs.

(b) To pay all or a portion of any future net direct employer contributions.

(c) To provide for cost-of-living increases in accordance with applicable law.

(2) In no event shall the funds charged from the account exceed the outstanding account balance.

(3) If the board of trustees elects to charge funds from the funding deposit account pursuant to Subparagraph (1)(b) of this Subsection, the percent reduction in the minimum recommended employer contribution rate otherwise applicable shall be determined by dividing the interest-adjusted value of the charges from the funding deposit account by the projected payroll for the fiscal year for which the contribution rate is to be reduced.

(4) The balance in the funding deposit account shall be excluded from the assets used in the calculation of the employer contribution rate in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 11:103.

(5) For all purposes other than funding, the balance in the account shall be considered assets of the system.

Section 2. R.S. 11:105(A)(6), 106(A)(4), 107(A)(5), 107.1(A)(5), 242(B)(6), 243(A)(6), and 246(A)(6) are hereby repealed.

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 in 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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 228

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 18

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1762(A) and to repeal Section 2 of Act 634 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature, relative to retirees who return to part-time employment in a position covered by the Municipal Employees' Retirement System; to provide for retirement benefits under certain conditions; to provide for the termination date of certain provisions; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1762(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1762. Part-time reemployment of retirees

A.(1) Whenever a retiree receiving normal retirement benefits becomes reemployed by an employer but the retiree does not meet the definition of an employee and ~~either~~ his monthly earnings are equal to or less than the difference between his monthly average final compensation and his monthly retirement benefit ~~or the retiree has more than thirty years of creditable service and is at least age sixty, his retirement benefits shall continue without any reduction~~, **his retirement benefits shall continue,** and the retiree shall not be a member of the system.

(2) Whenever a retiree ~~who has thirty years or less of creditable service and who is~~ receiving normal retirement benefits becomes reemployed by an employer but the retiree does not meet the definition of an employee and his monthly earnings exceed the difference between his monthly average final compensation and his monthly retirement benefit, his retirement benefits shall be reduced by the amount that his monthly earnings exceed the difference between his monthly average final compensation and his monthly retirement benefit for every month of such employment, and the retiree shall not be a member of the system. The calculation of monthly earnings shall not include income attributable to service as a part-time elected official listed in R.S. 11:164.

* * *

Section 2. Section 2 of Act 634 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature is hereby repealed.

Section 3. A retiree serving as a part-time reemployed retiree under the provisions of Act 634 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature before July 1, 2026, may continue to serve as a part-time reemployed retiree without any reduction in his retirement benefits so long as his part-time service remains continuous.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 229

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 20

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 11:102(B)(1)(a) and to repeal R.S. 11:102(E)(4), 102.3, and 1145.1, relative to the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System; to provide relative to determination of employer contributions; to provide relative to amortization of certain actuarial gains; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 11:102(B)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§102. Employer contributions; determination; state systems

* * *

B.(1)(a) Except as provided in R.S. 11:102.1, 102.2, ~~102.3,~~ 102.4, and 102.5 and in Paragraph (5) of this Subsection, for each fiscal year, commencing with Fiscal Year 1989-1990, for each of the public retirement systems referenced in Subsection A of this Section, the legislature shall set the required employer contribution rate for each system or plan equal to the sum of the following:

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 11:102(E)(4), 102.3, and 1145.1 are hereby repealed.

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 in 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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 230

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 21

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:102.1(A)(4)(c)(iv), to enact R.S. 11:102.1(A)(5), and to repeal R.S. 11:102.1(A)(4)(c)(v), (e)(ii) and (iii), and (h) through (j), relative to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for the calculation of employer contributions, minimum employer contribution rates, amortization of the unfunded accrued liability, and treatment of contribution variances for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:102.1(A)(4)(c)(iv) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:102.1(A)(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§102.1. Amortization payment schedules; priority excess return allocations; Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System

A.(1)

* * *

* * *

(4) For purposes of this Section, the following shall apply:

* * *

(c) "Secondary priority amount" shall mean the maximum amount of system returns in excess of the system's actuarially assumed rate of return that may be applied to the experience account amortization base, regardless of whether actual returns that equal or exceed the maximum are available, and shall equal:

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

* * *

(iv) For the first valuation after the original amortization base is liquidated, ~~the portion of the prior year's primary priority amount that was necessary to liquidate the original amortization base plus the prior year's secondary priority amount, both increased by the percentage increase in the system's actuarial value of assets for the prior year, if any~~ **the provisions of this Paragraph shall terminate**.

* * *

~~(h)~~**(5)(a)** Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of Subparagraph (i) of this Paragraph~~ **any other provision of this Section**, effective for the June thirtieth valuation following the fiscal year in which the system first attains a funded percentage of eighty or more pursuant to R.S. 11:542 and for each valuation thereafter, the net remaining liability of ~~the~~ **any** amortization base to which ~~the~~ **any additional** funds are applied shall be reamortized with annual level-dollar payments calculated as provided in R.S. 11:102 over the remainder of the amortization period originally established for that amortization base.

~~(i)~~**(b)** Beginning with Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and every fifth fiscal year thereafter, the remaining liability net of all payments made since the last reamortization shall be reamortized over the remainder of the amortization period originally established for that amortization base with annual payments calculated as provided for in this Section.

~~(j)~~**(c)** Except as provided in Subparagraphs ~~(h) and (i)~~ **(a) and (b)** of this Paragraph and in Item (B)(3)(a)(iv) of this Section, the net remaining liability of the amortization base to which the funds are applied shall not be reamortized after such application.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 11:102.1(A)(4)(c)(v), (e)(ii) and (iii), and (h) through (j) are hereby repealed.

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 in 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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 231

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 23

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX AND REPRESENTATIVES BOUDREAUX, BRYANT, CHASSION, FISHER, ILLG, JACKSON, LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, MILLER, PHELPS, TAYLOR, WALTERS AND YOUNG

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:5.5(E)(2)(j), relative to food service establishments; to provide for an exemption to the definition of food service establishment; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:5.5(E)(2)(j) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§5.5. Sanitary inspections of certain food service establishments; food safety certificates

* * *

E.(1)

* * *

(2) The term "food service establishment" shall not include any of the following:

* * *

(j) An adult residential care provider.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 232

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 26

BY SENATOR MCMATH

AN ACT

To repeal R.S. 40:2116(B)(5) and 2159, relative to opioid treatment programs; to repeal the facility need review requirements for opioid treatment programs; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:2116(B)(5) and 2159 are hereby repealed.

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 233

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 28

BY SENATOR MCMATH AND REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BERAULT, BOURRIAQUE, BROUSSARD, CARVER, CHENEVERT, COX, DICKERSON, EGAN, FISHER, HORTON, ILLG, JACKSON, LAFLEUR, LYONS, MARTINEZ, MENA, TAYLOR, WYBLE AND YOUNG

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7.8(B)(3), relative to the associate educator program; to provide for participant requirements; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:7.8(B)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§7.8. Associate educator program; authority; rules; participant requirements

* * *

B. An individual who serves as a teacher through the program authorized by this Section, referred to in this Section as a "participant", shall:

* * *

(3) Be at least ~~twenty-five~~ **twenty-one** years of age.

* * *

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 234

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 40

BY SENATOR WHEAT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:125, relative to the procedure for approaching vehicles adjacent to the highway; to provide for procedure for approaching authorized emergency vehicles parked adjacent to the highway; to provide for procedures approaching any vehicle in an emergency; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:125 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§125. Procedure on approach of an authorized emergency vehicle; passing a parked **or disabled**, emergency **or nonemergency** vehicle

A.**(1)** Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle**, as defined by R.S. 32:1,** making use of audible or visual signals, **authorized by law, including the display of alternately flashing green, amber, blue, red, or yellow warning lights,** or of a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal only, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right-hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any intersection, and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

(2) This Section shall not be construed to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.

B. When any vehicle ~~making use of any visual signals as authorized by law, including the display of alternately flashing green, amber, or yellow warning lights~~, **as defined by R.S. 32:1,** is parked on or near the highway**, disabled, immobilized, nonoperational and is making use of any visual signals including the display of flashing lights, hazard lamps, or any emergency warning devices**, the driver of every ~~other~~ **passing or approaching** vehicle shall:

~~(1) When driving on an interstate highway or other highway with two or more lanes traveling in the same direction,~~ yield the right-of-way **when driving on an interstate highway or other highway with two or more lanes traveling in the same direction,** by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to the parked vehicle, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions. If a lane change is not possible**, unsafe, or driving on a two-lane road or highway**, the driver shall slow to a reasonably safe speed **and maintain a safe speed for road conditions**.

~~(2) Maintain a safe speed for road conditions, if unable or unsafe to change lanes, or driving on a two-lane road or highway.~~

C. ~~This Section shall not operate to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.~~

~~D.~~ Any person who violates the provisions of this Section shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine not to exceed two hundred dollars.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 235

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 48
BY SENATOR MIZELL AND REPRESENTATIVES BAYHAM, BILLINGS, DICKERSON, EGAN, GLORIOSO, MCMAHEN, MCMAKIN, MENA, SAWYER, WRIGHT, WYBLE AND ZERINGUE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:404(F)(1) and to enact R.S. 32:404(G), relative to international driving privileges; to provide for technical corrections; to authorize establishing reciprocity with Ireland relative to driver's licenses; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:404(F)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:404(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§404. Operation of motor vehicles by nonresidents, students, and military personnel and dependents; reciprocity agreements with foreign countries

* * *

F.(1) The ~~deputy secretary of public safety services of the~~ Department of Public Safety and Corrections is hereby authorized to promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary to enter into reciprocity agreements with jurisdictions or agencies in foreign countries or with foreign governments that issue driver's licenses or the equivalent.

* * *

G. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall enter a reciprocity agreement with the country of Ireland.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 236

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 55
BY SENATOR STINE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1), relative to seatbelts; to provide for the proper way to wear a seatbelt; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:295.1(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§295.1. Safety belt use; tags indicating exemption

A.(1) Each driver of a passenger car, van, sports utility vehicle, or truck having a gross weight of twenty-six thousand pounds or less in this state shall have a safety belt properly fastened ~~about his or her body~~ **and worn across both the lap and shoulder as designed, and not placed behind the body or under the arm** at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to those cars, vans, sports utility vehicles, or pickups manufactured prior to January 1, 1981.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 237

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 64
BY SENATOR HODGES
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:1948(C)(5)(b) and to enact R.S. 17:1948(C)(5)(c), relative to cameras in special education classrooms; to provide relative to circumstances where recordings may be disclosed; to require presence of the superintendent or his designee and parent or legal guardian during viewing of recordings; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:1948(C)(5)(b) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:1948(C)(5)(c) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1948. Cameras in certain classrooms; definitions; required policies; confidentiality; authorization of funding

* * *

C. The policies shall include provisions for the following:

* * *

(5) Protecting student privacy and for determining to whom and under what circumstances the recordings may be disclosed including:

* * *

(b) **Requiring both the superintendent and his designee or requiring two designees of the superintendent to be present during the initial viewing of the recordings after a request has been made.**

(c) Requiring any person who views a recording and who suspects the recordings show a violation of state or federal law to report the suspected violation to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 238

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 69
BY SENATOR WHEAT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:1951(B)(2)(a), (c), (d), and (g), relative to the South Tangipahoa Parish Port Commission; to provide for the composition of the board of commissioners; to provide for the submission of nominees; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 34:1951(B)(2)(a), (c), (d), and (g) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1951. Creation of South Tangipahoa Parish Port Commission

* * *

B.(1)

* * *

(2) Upon the expiration of the term of each member whose term expires as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection or the creation of a vacancy in the seat of any such member, whichever occurs first, the governor shall appoint the successor to the member, subject to Senate confirmation, as follows and in the following order:

(a) First, one member from a list of three nominees submitted by the senator representing Senate District ~~Six~~ **Thirty-seven**.

* * *

(c) Third, one member from a list of three nominees submitted by the senator representing Senate District ~~Eleven~~ **Thirty-seven**.

(d) Fourth, one member from a list of three nominees submitted by the ~~Pontchatoula~~ **Ponchatoula** Chamber of Commerce.

* * *

(g) Seventh, one member from a list of three nominees submitted by the senator representing Senate District ~~Six,~~ **Thirty-seven and** the representative representing House of Representatives District Seventy-three~~, and the senator representing Senate District Eleven~~.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 239

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 75
BY SENATOR HODGES
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 29:726(E)(31), relative to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness; to provide for authority and responsibilities; to require the office to perform certain functions or to assign functions to another state agency or department; to provide for promulgation of rules establishing cybersecurity standards applicable to local governmental subdivisions and political subdivisions that seek state assistance in response to a cybersecurity incident; to authorize promulgation of certain emergency rules; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 29:726(E)(31) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§726. Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness; authority and responsibilities

* * *

E. The office shall either directly or through authorized assignment to another state agency or department:

* * *

(31) Promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act establishing cybersecurity standards applicable to local governmental subdivisions and political subdivisions that seek state assistance in response to a cybersecurity incident.

(a) The rules shall at a minimum establish cybersecurity standards for technical management practices that assure cybersecurity compliance with national cybersecurity standards and set forth eligibility requirements for receiving state assistance in response to a cybersecurity incident.

(b) Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to prevent the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness from entering into a contract to provide services to a local governmental subdivision or political subdivision that is not in compliance with the cybersecurity standards promulgated pursuant to this Paragraph. Reimbursement of costs associated with these services shall be the obligation of the noncompliant local governmental subdivision or political subdivision.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

(c) The office may promulgate emergency rules to provide for the initial implementation of the provisions of this Paragraph.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 240

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 77

BY SENATOR MILLER (On Recommendation of the Louisiana State Law Institute)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact Civil Code Arts. 2674, 2681, 2711, 2712, and 2713, and to enact Section 5 of Chapter 2 of Title IX of Book III of the Civil Code, to be comprised of Civil Code Arts. 2681.1 and 2681.2, and Civil Code Art. 2713.1, relative to leases of movable property; to provide for effects against third persons; to provide relative to delivery of leased goods; to provide for the effects of leases by nonowners; to provide relative to transfers of property subject to a lease; to provide relative to sublease and the assignment and encumbrance of lease interests; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Civil Code Arts. 2674, 2681, 2711, 2712, and 2713 are hereby amended and reenacted and Section 5 of Chapter 2 of Title IX of Book III of the Civil Code, to be comprised of Civil Code Arts. 2681.1 and 2681.2, and Civil Code Art. 2713.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 2674. Ownership of the thing

A lease of a thing that does not belong to the lessor may nevertheless be binding on the parties.

A lease of a corporeal movable that does not belong to the lessor has effect against the owner if the lessor has possession of the thing with the consent of the owner, is a merchant customarily selling or leasing similar things, and leases the thing for fair value in the regular course of the lessor's business to a lessee in good faith.

Revision Comments – 2026

(a) The second paragraph of this Article is new. It articulates a rule that aligns with the principles set forth in Article 520 and with the doctrine of entrustment found in the Uniform Commercial Code. See U.C.C. Sections 2-403 and 2A-305(2). Under Article 520, a merchant in possession of a corporeal movable with the owner's consent may transfer ownership of the movable in the regular course of business to a transferee who is in good faith and pays fair value. That provision is designed to protect the rights of persons who reasonably and honestly believe that the person with whom they are dealing has the power to transfer the movable. In the same vein, this Article protects a lessee who leases from someone who he reasonably and honestly believes has the power to lease the movable. For example, if the owner of a corporeal movable places it in the possession of a repairperson who also customarily sells or leases things of the same kind, and the repairperson leases the thing for fair value during the regular course of its business to a lessee in good faith, the lease has effect against the owner of the thing. Similarly, this Article protects a sublessee of a merchant who subleases a corporeal movable beyond the terms of the prime lease, provided that the sublease is executed for fair value in the regular course of the merchant's business to a sublessee in good faith. In this way, this Article operates as an exception to the general limitation on the rights of sublessees stated in Article 2713.1 and is consistent with U.C.C. Section 2A-305(2).

(b) The term "possession," as used in this Article and in Article 520, refers to precarious possession, which is defined in Article 3437 as the exercise of possession over a thing with the permission of or on behalf of the owner or possessor. See A.N. Yiannopoulos & Ronald J. Scalise, Jr., Louisiana Civil Law Treatise: Property §12:20.

(c) The concept of good faith adopted in this Article derives from Article 523, according to which an acquirer of a corporeal movable is in good faith unless he knows, or should have known, that the transferor was not the owner. Under that Article, good faith is presumed. See Brown and Root, Inc. v. Southeast Equipment Co., Inc. 470 So. 2d 516 (La. App. 1 Cir. 1985). If, however, the acquirer has notice of facts that would put a reasonably prudent person on inquiry, the acquirer is under a duty to investigate with the view of ascertaining the true situation. See Article 523, cmt. (b). By analogy, a lessee is in good faith unless he has actual or constructive knowledge that his lessor exceeds his right to lease the thing.

(d) When the lease of a thing that does not belong to the lessor has effect against the owner under the second paragraph of this Article, the owner may not evict the lessee. Absent an agreement to the contrary, however, the owner is not the lessor, is not personally bound by the lessor's obligations, and is not subrogated to the rights of the lessor under the lease. The owner may have a delictual or contractual action against the lessor, depending upon the circumstances, for any loss that the owner sustains as a result of the lease.

(e) The second paragraph of this Article does not apply when a lease is binding on the owner by operation of the law of mandate, according to which a lease made by someone other than the owner of the thing may be binding on the owner due to the lessor's actual or apparent authority to lease it. See Article 2989 et seq.

* * *

Art. 2681. Form

A lease may be made orally or in writing. ~~A lease of an immovable is not effective against third persons until filed for recordation in the manner prescribed by legislation.~~

SECTION 5. EFFECTS AGAINST THIRD PERSONS

Art. 2681.1. Lease of an immovable

A lease of an immovable has effect against third persons from the time that it is filed for registry in the manner prescribed by legislation.

Revision Comments – 2026

This revision does not change the law. In the civil law tradition, a lease is a contract that imposes personal obligations on the lessor and the lessee but does not create real rights. A.N. Yiannopoulos & Ronald J. Scalise, Jr., Louisiana Civil Law Treatise: Property §9:26. Absent legislation to the contrary, a lease has no effect against one who is not a party to or bound by the lease. *Id.* With respect to immovables, Louisiana legislation and jurisprudence have long provided that a lease of an immovable has effect against third persons once it is filed for registry in the conveyance records of the parish where the immovable is located. See R.S. 9:2721(A) (repealed); Articles 3338 and 3346; Summers v. Clark, 30 La. Ann. 436 (La. 1878); Tate v. Fakouri, 118 So. 2d 464 (La. App. 1 Cir. 1959); Avenue Plaza, L.L.C. v. Falgoust, 654 So. 2d 838 (La. App. 4 Cir. 1995).

Art. 2681.2. Lease of a movable

A lease of a corporeal movable has effect against third persons upon actual delivery of the movable to the lessee who is in good faith and ceases to have that effect when the thing is returned to the lessor or his successor.

Revision Comments – 2026

(a) This Article is new. In the civil law tradition, a lease is a contract that imposes personal obligations on the lessor and the lessee but does not create real rights. A.N. Yiannopoulos & Ronald J. Scalise, Jr., Louisiana Civil Law Treatise: Property §9:26. Absent legislation to the contrary, a lease has no effect against one who is not a party to or bound by it. *Id.* Article 2733 of the Civil Code of 1870 provided that the purchaser of a leased thing "can not turn out the tenant before his lease has expired, unless the contrary has been stipulated in the contract." That article was repealed in the 2004 revision of the title on "Lease" and replaced with Article 2711, which provides instead that "[t]he transfer of the leased thing does not terminate the lease, unless the contrary had been agreed between the lessor and the lessee." While the 2004 Revision Comments to Article 2711 suggest that the lease of a movable has effect against third persons "because [a transferee's] right to use [the leased thing] has been alienated prior to his acquisition," the repeal of Article 2733 of the Civil Code of 1870 cast doubt on that proposition. This revision explicitly adopts a rule that a lease of a corporeal movable is effective against third persons upon actual delivery of the movable to the lessee, provided that the lessee is in good faith.

(b) This rule is consistent with the modern civil law approach to leases of movables, which affords some protections for the lessee against third persons. For example, in France a good faith lessee in actual possession is preferred over a subsequent lessee of the movable. See 20 Baudry-Lacantinerie & Wahl, Traité théorique et pratique de droit civil français Nos 138–45 (3d ed. 1906); cf. Fr. C. Civ. Art. 1198. While French law generally adheres to the traditional view that a lease of a movable is not enforceable against a subsequent purchaser of the thing, modern commentators take the view that the purchaser of a leased movable ought to be bound to the lease if the lease was by authentic act or if the lease was made known to the purchaser. See, e.g., Philippe Malaurie et al., Droit civil – Contrats spéciaux No. 621 (10th ed. 2018); 10 Planiol & Ripert, Traité pratique de droit civil français No. 732 (2d ed. 1956); 5 Aubry & Rau, Droit civil français §369 at 278 n.31 (6th ed. 1952). Under German and Greek law, in the case of successive leases of the same thing, the person who first takes delivery in good faith prevails. In the event of an alienation of the leased thing, if the lessee has taken delivery in good faith before the alienation, the new owner is relegated to the possession of the thing subject to the lessee's right of detention. See 2 Karl Larenz, Lehrbuch des Schuldrechts (Besonderer Teil) 240-41 (13th ed. 1986); 1 Ioannis Delegiannis & Panagiotis Kornilakis, Special Law of Obligations 453 n.1, 454 (1992).

(c) The Uniform Commercial Code also provides for the enforceability of a lease of goods against third persons. U.C.C. Section 2A-301 provides: "Except as otherwise provided…a lease contract is effective and enforceable according to its terms between the parties, against purchasers of the goods and against creditors of the parties." Moreover, under U.C.C. Section 2A-302, a lease is effective "whether the lessor, the lessee, or a third party has possession of the goods." Thus, under U.C.C. Article 2A, a lease of goods is effective against third persons by virtue of the very existence of the lease contract. The rule adopted in this Article is narrower than the U.C.C. approach, as the protections conferred by this Article are dependent upon the lessee's good faith and actual delivery to the lessee.

(d) This Article requires "actual delivery" of the movable to the lessee for the lease to be effective against third persons. "Actual delivery," which occurs when the movable is physically handed over to the lessee, is contrasted with "constructive delivery," which occurs when the transfer of possession is not physical but is instead symbolized by other actions or agreements, such as handing over the key to the place where the item is stored, negotiating a document of title, or even by the mere consent of the parties if the thing cannot be transported at the time of the lease. See Article 2477 and cmt. (b).

(e) The effectiveness of the lease against third persons is dependent upon the lessee's good faith. For example, in the case of successive leases, a subsequent lease is enforceable against the first lessee if the subsequent

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

lessee takes actual delivery first in time and is in good faith. The concept of good faith adopted in this Article derives from Article 523, according to which an acquirer of a corporeal movable is in good faith unless he knows, or should have known, that the transferor was not the owner. Under that Article, good faith is presumed. See Brown and Root, Inc. v. Southeast Equipment Co., Inc, 470 So.2d 516 (La. App. 1 Cir. 1985). If, however, the acquirer has notice of facts that would put a reasonably prudent person on inquiry, the acquirer is under a duty to investigate with the view of ascertaining the true situation. See Article 523, cmt. (b). By analogy, a lessee is in good faith unless he has actual or constructive knowledge of conflicting rights of a third person to the leased thing.

(f) Under this Article, the effectiveness of the lease against third persons ceases when the thing is returned to the lessor, whether voluntarily or involuntarily. If, for example, the lessee temporarily returns the movable to the lessor for repairs, and, while the thing is in the possession of the lessor, the lessor enters into a new lease with a subsequent lessee in good faith to whom the lessor actually delivers the leased movable, the subsequent lessee takes the movable free of the existing lease. This Article adopts an approach to this problem that is different from that found in the Uniform Commercial Code. U.C.C. Section 2A-304(2) provides that when the leased goods are "entrusted" to the lessor, a subsequent lessee in the ordinary course of business from the lessor obtains the goods free of the existing contract if the lessor was a merchant dealing in goods of that kind. U.C.C. Section 2-403 provides for the same result if the lessor, having been "entrusted" with the goods during the lease, sells them to a third person. By contrast, under this Article, a subsequent lessee or transferee of a lessor to whom the thing has been returned acquires the thing free of the existing lease regardless of whether the lessor is a merchant and irrespective of whether the subsequent transfer was made in the regular course of the lessor's business. The rule set forth in this Article applies whether the thing is returned to the lessor or the lessor's successor. In this context, "successor" has the meaning provided in Article 3506.

(g) This Article alone does not address all possible disputes that may arise between a lessee of a corporeal movable and a third person to the lease. For example, to resolve contests between a lessee and a transferee of the same corporeal movable, this Article must be read *in pari materia* with Article 518, which provides that the transfer of ownership of a corporeal movable takes place against third persons when the possession of the movable is delivered to the transferee, and if possession has not yet been delivered, then a subsequent transferee in good faith to whom possession is delivered acquires ownership. If the lessee takes actual delivery of the thing in good faith before the transferee takes possession of it, then the lessee prevails. By contrast, if the transferee takes possession of the thing in good faith before the lessee takes actual delivery of it, then the transferee prevails. Contests may also arise between the lessee and a third person who claims a right in the thing by virtue of the dissolution, simulation, or nullity of the contract by which the lessor obtained the thing. In those cases, this Article must be read *in pari materia* with Articles 2021, 2028, and 2035. For example, under Article 2035, the nullity of a contract does not impair the rights acquired through an onerous contract by a third person in good faith. Thus, if the lessor's seller annuls the sale by which the lessor obtained ownership of the leased thing on grounds of fraud or error, the lease is enforceable against the seller only if the lessee took actual delivery of the thing in good faith before the sale was declared null. This result is in line with the Uniform Commercial Code, according to which a lessor with "voidable title" has the power to transfer a good leasehold interest to a "good faith subsequent lessee for value." See U.C.C. Section 2A-304(1).

(h) This Article does not address the rights of a sublessee against a prime lessor, as those rights are instead governed by Article 2713.1.

* * *

Art. 2711. Transfer of thing **by lessor** does not terminate lease

The transfer of the leased thing **by the lessor** does not terminate the lease~~, unless the contrary had been agreed between the lessor and the lessee~~. **The lessee has an action against the lessor for any loss that the lessee sustains as a result of the transfer.**

Revision Comments – 2026

(a) This revision does not change the law. This Article combines former Articles 2711 and 2712 to make clear that the principle stated in the second sentence of former Article 2712 applies equally to movables and immovables. As under prior law, the transfer of the leased thing does not terminate the lease, which continues to have effects between the lessor and lessee. This is consistent with the principle that "[a] lease of a thing that does not belong to the lessor may nevertheless be binding on the parties," Article 2674, and that "ownership of the thing by the lessor is not an essential element of the contract of lease." *Id.*, cmt. (c).

(b) Following a transfer of a leased thing, the lessee has an action against the lessor for any loss that the lessee sustains as a result of the transfer. For example, if the lease was not enforceable against third persons at the time of the transfer and the lessor transfers the leased thing to a person who exercises the right to evict the lessee before the end of the term, the lessor has failed to perform obligations under the warranty of peaceful possession. See Article 2700. The consequences of this breach are determined under the law of conventional obligations and may consist of injunctive relief, dissolution of the lease, or damages, according to the circumstances. See *id.*, cmt. (b).

(c) As under prior law, the continuation of the lease following transfer of the leased thing and the lessee's rights against the lessor following the transfer are matters of suppletive law and may be modified or negated by the parties' agreement.

Art. 2712. Transfer of ~~immovable subject to unrecorded lease~~ **thing does not transfer rights and obligations of lease**

~~A third person who acquires an immovable that is subject to an unrecorded lease is not bound by the lease.~~

~~In the absence of a contrary provision in the lease contract, the lessee has an action against the lessor for any loss the lessee sustained as a result of the transfer.~~

The transferee of a thing that is subject to a lease is not legally subrogated to the rights of his transferor and is not personally bound by the transferor's obligations under the lease unless the transferee assumes them.

Revision Comments – 2026

This revision does not change the law. This Article restates the principle of Article 1764 that a particular successor, that is, one who acquires a thing by particular title, is not bound by the personal obligations of the transferor with respect to the thing, unless the particular successor has assumed those obligations. A particular successor likewise does not acquire any personal rights of the transferor in the absence of a conventional subrogation to those rights by the transferor. See Article 1764, cmt. (d). In the context of lease, this means that, unless there is an agreement to the contrary, the transferee of a thing that is subject to lease does not become the lessor, is not bound by the lessor's obligations, and does not enjoy the lessor's rights in the lease. If the lessor has not assigned the right to the rent to the transferee, the lessee remains obligated to pay rent to the lessor and may not refuse to pay rent or perform his other obligations because of the lessor's lack of ownership.

Art. 2713. ~~Lessee's right~~ **Right** to sublease, assign, or encumber

~~The~~ **Each party has the right to assign or encumber his rights in the lease, and the** lessee has the right to sublease the leased thing ~~or to assign or encumber his rights in the lease, unless~~**. These rights may be** expressly prohibited by the contract of lease**, except as otherwise provided by legislation**.

A provision **in a lease of an immovable** that prohibits ~~one of these rights~~ **the right of the lessee to assign, encumber, or sublease** is deemed to prohibit the others, unless a contrary intent is expressed. In all other respects, a provision that prohibits ~~subleasing,~~ **the lessee of an immovable from** assigning, ~~or~~ encumbering**, or subleasing** is to be strictly construed against the lessor.

Revision Comments – 2026

(a) This revision makes explicit that the lessor has the right to assign or encumber his rights in the lease, unless expressly prohibited by the contract of lease. Prior law addressed only the right of the lessee to assign or encumber his rights in the lease or to sublease the leased thing.

(b) The parties' freedom to restrict the lessor's rights under this Article may be curtailed by other law. See, e.g., Article 3163 (leases of immovables); R.S. 10:9-407 (leases of movables).

(c) The second paragraph of this Article changes the law in part. Under the previous version of this Article, a provision in the lease, whether of movables or immovables, that prohibited subleasing, assigning, or encumbering was deemed to prohibit the others, unless a contrary intent was expressed, and in all other respects, a provision prohibiting subleasing, assigning, or encumbering was to be strictly construed against the lessor. This revision continues that rule of construction of leases of immovables, but such a construction does not apply to leases of movables. The interpretation of a lease of movables, like any contract, is governed by the general rules governing the interpretation of conventional obligations. See Articles 2045 through 2057.

Art. 2713.1. Rights of sublessee or assignee

Except as otherwise provided by legislation, a person to whom a lessee subleases the thing or assigns his rights in the lease acquires no greater rights than the lessee to the use and enjoyment of the thing.

Revision Comments – 2026

(a) This Article restates a principle that has long been recognized in the Louisiana jurisprudence. See Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana v. Joy, 150 So. 443 (La. App. Orl. 1933); Scott v. Kalip, 197 So. 205 (La. App. 2 Cir. 1940); Ogden v. John Jay Esthetic Salons, Inc., 470 So. 2d 521 (La. App. 1 Cir. 1985); Brown v. Mayfield, 488 So. 2d 322 (La. App. 3 Cir. 1986). With respect to movable things, the rule set forth in this Article is equivalent to that set forth in U.C.C Section 2A-305(1): "[A] buyer or sublessee from the lessee of goods under an existing lease contract obtains, to the extent of the interest transferred, the leasehold interest in the goods that the lessee had or had power to transfer, and…takes subject to the existing lease contract."

(b) As an exception to the general rule found in this Article, Article 2674 allows a good faith sublessee of a corporeal movable to acquire greater rights than those provided by the prime lease under the limited circumstances described in that article. This exception is designed to protect the rights of a sublessee who reasonably and honestly believes that the person with whom he is dealing is not restricted in his power to lease the movable. See also Article 520.

(c) This Article does not displace other provisions of Louisiana law that address the rights of a sublessee of a thing vis-à-vis the prime lessor. First, this Article must be read *in pari materia* with Article 2681.2, under which a sublease, like any lease, has effect against third persons, including the prime lessor, upon actual delivery of the movable to the sublessee in good faith. In cases of dissolution, simulation, or nullity of the contract by which the sublessor obtained the thing, this Article must also be read *in pari materia* with Articles 2021, 2028, and 2035. For example, under Article 2035, the nullity of a contract does not impair the rights acquired through an onerous contract by a third person in good faith. Thus, if the sublessor's lessor annuls

the prime lease on grounds of fraud or error, the sublease remains effective if the sublessee took delivery of the thing in good faith before the prime lease was declared null. This result is consistent with the Uniform Commercial Code, according to which a sublessor with a "voidable leasehold interest" has the power to transfer a good leasehold interest to a "good faith sublessee for value." See U.C.C. Section 2A-305(1).

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 241

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SENATE BILL NO. 85
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:5554.15, relative to the payment of group insurance premiums for retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in St. Charles Parish; to create a permanent fund; to provide for the depositing of certain monies into the fund; to provide for investment of monies in the fund; to authorize the withdrawal of earnings; to provide for limitations on appropriations from the fund; to provide for audits of the fund; to provide for the membership of the investment advisory board; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5554.15 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§5554.15. St. Charles Parish; payment of group insurance premiums; retired sheriffs and deputy sheriffs; creation of fund

A. There is hereby created the St. Charles Parish Sheriff Retired Employees Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as the "SCREIF", to help offset the payment by the sheriff's office of St. Charles Parish of the premium costs for eligible retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs as provided in R.S. 13:5554(O).

B. The sheriff of St. Charles Parish may contribute to the SCREIF at his discretion.

C. Upon recommendations of the board established in Subsection F of this Section, the sheriff of St. Charles Parish shall invest at least twenty-five percent in equities and twenty-five percent in fixed income investments into the SCREIF, provided that a minimum of seventy-five percent of the fixed income portion is rated as investment grade by a nationally recognized rating agency.

D.(1) The earnings realized on the monies invested pursuant to Subsection C of this Section shall be available for the sheriff to withdraw for the sole purpose of paying the insurance premium costs provided in R.S. 13:5554(O) for retired sheriffs and retired deputy sheriffs of St. Charles Parish, legal representation costs for the SCREIF Board, or both, provided that no such earnings shall be withdrawn until the amount of principal and accumulated earnings in the SCREIF are equal to the sum of four million dollars.

(2) In the event that the total amount of monies derived from deposits provided in Subsection B of this Section and investment earnings fall below the sum of four million dollars, no earnings shall be withdrawn, and any balance owed for the payment of insurance premium costs as required by R.S. 13:5554(O) or legal representation costs for the SCREIF Board shall be paid in full from the sheriff's general fund.

E. Any financial audit conducted of the sheriff's office of St. Charles Parish shall specifically address compliance with the provisions of this Section.

F.(1) To provide recommendations concerning the investment of funds as provided in Subsection C of this Section, the sheriff shall establish the SCREIF Board as an investment advisory board consisting of three members as follows:

(a) The sheriff or his designee.

(b) One retired sheriff or retired deputy sheriff of the department, appointed by the sheriff, who shall serve a term determined by the sheriff.

(c) One active deputy sheriff of the department, appointed by the sheriff, who shall serve a term determined by the sheriff.

(2) The members of the board shall elect a chairperson at its first board meeting, which shall be held within thirty days after the appointment of board members.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 242

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 106
BY SENATOR KLEINPETER
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 44:4(65), relative to public records; to provide relative to the confidentiality of crime scene photographs, audio or video recordings, digital images, which may be used as evidence in a criminal proceeding; to provide for limited access under specified circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 44:4(65) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§4. Applicability

This Chapter shall not apply:

* * *

(65) To a copy of any audio recording, image, video, or photograph in the custody of a clerk of court after it is introduced into evidence of a criminal prosecution and which is determined by the clerk to depict: an autopsy, dead body, sexual assault, gruesome injury, obscene act, a juvenile victim, a victim's genitals, pubic hair, anus, vulva, or female breast, or any patently offensive sexual act, unless such image, video, or photograph is voluntarily released, otherwise available to the general public, or released by court order.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 243

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 107
BY SENATOR MORRIS
AN ACT

To provide for a special statewide election to be held on April 17, 2027, for the purpose of submitting proposed constitutional amendments to the electors of the state; to provide for the conduct of such election; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. A special statewide election shall be held on Saturday, April 17, 2027, for the purpose of submitting to the electors of the state proposed constitutional amendments contained in joint resolutions concurred in by each house of the legislature during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

Section 2. The election for which provision is made in this Act shall be held in compliance with and subject to the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code.

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 in 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.

Section 4. This Act shall be void and of no effect if no proposed constitutional amendment as contained in a joint resolution that specifies the special statewide election provided in this Act as the statewide election at which the proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the electors is concurred in by each house of the legislature

during the 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 244

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SENATE BILL NO. 115
BY SENATOR FOIL
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 48:212(E), relative to the Department of Transportation and Development and the federal government; to provide for giving authority to the department to take over duties of the federal government; to provide for allowing limited lawsuits against the department; to provide for the department to accept funds from any federal agency; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 48:212(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§212. Agreements with federal government

* * *

E. The department may enter into any agreements with the federal government or with any federal agency, including memoranda of understanding, to assume responsibility of the United States Department of Transportation, pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 326 and 327 as authorized under the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, and the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

(1) State sovereign immunity under the Eleventh Amendment of the United States Constitution is waived for lawsuits in federal court, but only as required by 23 U.S.C. 326 and 327. This waiver is limited solely to the compliance, discharge, or enforcement of responsibilities assumed by the department under these agreements and does not create any liability beyond federal law requirements.

(2) The department may adopt and promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to implement an agreement pursuant to this Subsection and to carry out any duties imposed by the agreement.

(3) The department may accept and make expenditures of money received from the federal government or any agency of the federal government for any transportation purpose.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 245

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SENATE BILL NO. 122
BY SENATOR FESI
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 48:21(A) and to enact R.S. 48:1(25) and 23.1, relative to the preservation of bridges by the Department of Transportation and Development; to provide for terms and definitions; to provide for functions and responsibilities of the department; to provide for reports to the legislature; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 48:21(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 48:1(25) and 23.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1. Terms defined

For purposes of this Chapter, the following terms have the meanings ascribed to them by this Section, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise:

* * *

(25) "Bridges" means bridges, overpasses, culverts, and related structures, together with their structural, load-bearing, safety, and operational components, that are located on or carry roadways designated as part of the state highway system and for which the department has responsibility pursuant to federal and state law.

* * *

§21. Functions

A.**(1)** The functions of the department shall be to study, administer, construct, improve, maintain, repair, and regulate the use of public transportation systems and to perform such other functions with regard to public highways, roads, and other transportation related facilities as may be conferred on the department by applicable law.

(2) The Department of Transportation and Development shall be responsible for the following:

(a) The inspection of all bridges that are part of the state highway system or as applicable pursuant to the terms as defined in R.S. 48:1(10) and (11).

(b) The operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, preservation, and replacement of all bridges owned by the department.

(c) Oversight of maintenance projects aimed at restoring structural integrity, improving safety, and extending the lifespan of bridges, including addressing deterioration, implementing rehabilitation strategies, and managing emergency repairs to ensure bridges remain safe and operational for the public.

(d) The responsibility of the department under this Subsection shall not apply to bridges owned or operated by another state agency, a political subdivision, special district, toll authority, or the federal government, unless otherwise expressly provided by law.

* * *

§23.1. Bridge review and report to the legislature

A.(1) The department shall prepare and furnish a report detailing the condition of all bridges maintained, operated or replaced by the department to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works in a joint public meeting of the two committees on or before October 1, 2026.

(2) The report shall include at minimum the following:

(a) The number of bridges within the department's responsibility as defined in R.S. 48:1.

(b) The status of the condition of the bridge.

(c) The type of bridge and the parish where it is located.

(d) The source of funds to maintain the bridge.

(e) The Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory condition rating.

B. Beginning January 1, 2027, the department shall present a biannual proposed maintenance plan for the preservation of all bridges maintained by the department to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works in a joint meeting of the two committees.

Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to arrange in alphabetical order and renumber the definitions provided in R.S. 48:1.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 246

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 140
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT

To enact Code of Civil Procedure Art. 2813, relative to probate procedure; to provide relative to multiple successions in the same proceeding; to provide relative to successions of more than one deceased person; to provide relative to jurisdiction of the court over successions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Art. 2813 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 2813. Multiple successions in the same proceeding

The same proceeding may be used to open the successions of more than one deceased person regardless of the dates of death of the deceased persons, provided that the court has jurisdiction over each succession pursuant to Article 2811.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 247

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 142
BY SENATOR REESE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3351(A)(2), relative to postsecondary education management boards; to provide the use of and conditions on all amounts received by public postsecondary education institutions from the Board of Regents Support Fund; to require public postsecondary education management boards to continue to comply with the initial conditions on the receipt of such amounts; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3351. General powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education management boards

A. Subject only to the powers of the Board of Regents specifically enumerated in Article VIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and as otherwise provided by law, each postsecondary system management board as a body corporate shall have authority to exercise power necessary to supervise and manage the day-to-day operations of institutions of postsecondary education under its control, including but not limited to the following:

* * *

(2)**(a)** Actively seek and accept donations, bequests, or other forms of financial assistance for educational purposes from any public or private person or agency and to comply with rules and regulations governing grants from the federal government or any other person or agency which are not in contravention of the constitution and laws.

(b) In the expenditure, investment, and use of any funds received by any institution under its jurisdiction from the Board of Regents Support Fund, ensure continued compliance with the Board of Regents Support Fund endowment programs under which nonstate contributions were matched with public funds, including the initial conditions on the receipt of such funds, the alignment of the endowment with a Board of Regents Support Fund matching program, and the inviolability of the original corpus, inclusive of nonstate and state contributions, as such funds derive from the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund, a public fund that retains its public character notwithstanding the ratification of its elimination by the electorate through any constitutional amendment.

* * *

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 248

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 150
BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX AND REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:42.1, relative to vital records; to provide for the scanning of documents; to provide for the creation of electronic files; to provide for the issuance of certified copies of documents; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:42.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§42.1. Scanning of original supporting documents and creation of electronic files; issuance of certified copies of evidentiary documents

A. The vital records registry and the state registrar may scan original documents submitted in support of vital records applications and in substantiation of information contained in the vital records registry, electronically store the scanned original documents, and return the original documents to the submitter. The scanned and electronically stored originals shall have the same authenticity as the original documents.

B. The vital records registry and the state registrar may issue certified copies

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

of documents in their custody in paper or electronic form, including but not limited to those that are evidentiary in nature.

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 249

SENATE BILL NO. 154
BY SENATOR KLEINPETER
AN ACT

To enact Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 404(K), relative to jury commissions; to provide for the functions of the jury commission in the parish of West Baton Rouge; to transfer the functions of the jury commission to the clerk of court of West Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for terms, conditions, procedures; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 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 West Baton Rouge, the function of the jury commission shall be performed by the clerk of court of West Baton Rouge Parish or by a deputy clerk of court designated by the 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 West Baton Rouge Parish shall perform the duties and responsibilities otherwise imposed upon him by law with respect to jury venires, shall coordinate the jury venire process, and shall receive the compensation generally authorized for a jury commissioner.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 250

SENATE BILL NO. 173
BY SENATOR MORRIS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Art. 2415(B) and to enact Code of Civil Procedure Art. 2415(C) and (D), relative to garnishments; to provide for delivery of property or payment of indebtedness to sheriff; to provide relative to financial institutions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Art. 2415(B) is hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Civil Procedure Art. 2415(C) and (D) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 2415. Delivery of property or payment of indebtedness to sheriff

* * *

B. **Notwithstanding the requirements provided in Paragraph A of this Article, if the garnishee is a federally insured financial institution and admits in its answer that it has in its possession funds on deposit belonging to the judgment debtor, and the garnishee has received no notice of opposition to the garnishment, then, if the funds on deposit are one thousand dollars or less, the garnishee may, without further court order, deliver the funds immediately to the sheriff. Delivery or payment to the sheriff discharges the garnishee's obligation to the judgment debtor to the extent of the delivery or payment to the sheriff.**

C. Notwithstanding the requirements provided in Paragraph A of this Article, if the garnishee is a federally insured financial institution and admits in its answer that it has in its possession funds on deposit belonging to the judgment debtor, and the garnishee has received no notice of opposition to the garnishment, and if the funds on deposit are greater than one thousand dollars, then the garnishee may, upon waiting a period of thirty days after the filing of its garnishment answer, and without further court order, deliver the funds on deposit to the sheriff. Delivery or payment to the sheriff discharges the garnishee's obligation to the judgment debtor to the extent of the delivery or payment to the sheriff.

D. This Article does not apply to garnishment of wages, salaries, tips reported to the employer, or commissions.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 251

SENATE BILL NO. 185
BY SENATOR PRESSLY AND REPRESENTATIVES WILFORD CARTER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, GLORIOSO, LARVADAIN, MELERINE, SCHLEGEL AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To enact Chapter 1-D of Code Title IV of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 9:2720.21 through 2720.23, relative to requisites for a valid agreement; to prohibit nondisclosure agreements involving victims of child sexual abuse; to provide for terms and definitions; to provide relative to enforcement of nondisclosure agreements in certain circumstances; to provide for retroactive application; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 1-D of Code Title IV of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 9:2720.21 through 2720.23 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 1-D. TERMINATING RESTRICTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF YOUTH SETTLEMENTS LAW

§2720.21. Short title

This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Terminating Restrictive Enforcement of Youth Settlements Law" or "TREY'S Law".

§2720.22. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Minor" means a person who has not attained eighteen years of age.

(2) "Nondisclosure clause" means a provision in a contract or agreement that prohibits one or more parties to the contract or agreement from disclosing conduct or information covered by the terms and conditions of the contract or agreement.

(3) "Sexual abuse" means:

(a) Any sexual act or conduct constituting a crime under the laws of this state, including a sex offense or sexual offense as defined in R.S. 15:541, regardless of whether the conduct results in a criminal charge, conviction, adjudication, or sentence.

(b) Any sexual act or conduct constituting abuse as defined in Children's Code Article 603, including the aiding or toleration of a minor's involvement in any sexual act or sexual activity.

§2720.23. Nondisclosure agreements; victims of child sexual abuse; void and unenforceable

A. A nondisclosure clause shall be void and unenforceable as against public policy only to the extent that the nondisclosure clause prohibits the following:

(1) A victim or alleged victim of sexual abuse against a minor from disclosing that act of sexual abuse, or facts related to that act of sexual abuse.

(2) Any other person from disclosing facts related to sexual abuse against a minor in support of, in furtherance of, or consistent with the right of a victim or alleged victim to disclose under Paragraph (A)(1) of this Section.

B. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit a person, including a victim or alleged victim of sexual abuse against a minor, from entering into a contract or agreement that restricts the disclosure of information, including the amount or payment terms of a settlement, by another party to the contract or agreement, including an alleged perpetrator, provided that such restriction does not prevent disclosure protected pursuant to Subsection A of this Section.

C. No person may enforce or attempt to enforce a nondisclosure clause provided for in this Section, regardless of the date that the contract or agreement containing the nondisclosure clause was entered into.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall apply retroactively and prospectively to any nondisclosure clause in a contract or agreement entered into before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 252

SENATE BILL NO. 195
BY SENATOR MYERS AND REPRESENTATIVES BERAULT, CHASSION, DICKERSON, EGAN, FISHER, MANDIE LANDRY, MCMAHEN, SPELL AND STAGNI
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1133.4(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 40:1133.19, relative to emergency medical services; to provide for the administration of certain medications; to provide for protocols; to provide for limitations; to provide for immunity; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:1133.4(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

40:1133.19 is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§1133.4. Powers and duties of the commission; exceptions
A. The commission shall:
* * *
(2) Approve requirements and standards of practice submitted by the bureau for emergency medical personnel consistent with this Part. **These requirements and standards shall include the authority for licensed emergency medical technicians, licensed advanced emergency medical technicians, and licensed paramedics to administer patient-carried, time-critical prescription medication to patients with rare diseases, chronic illnesses, and special medical needs in accordance with R.S. 40:1133.19.**
* * *
§1133.19. Administration of patient-carried, time-critical medication; authority; liability
A. A licensed emergency medical technician, licensed advanced emergency medical technician, or licensed paramedic may administer patient-carried, time-critical prescription medication, to patients with rare diseases, chronic illnesses, and special medical needs at the request of the patient or patient's family and in accordance with protocols established by the EMS practitioner's EMS medical director.
B. Medications administered pursuant to this Section shall be limited to intranasal, intravenous, and intramuscular medications.
C. A licensed emergency medical technician, licensed advanced emergency medical technician, or licensed paramedic that administers a patient-carried, time-critical prescription medication at the request of the patient or patient's family member as provided for in this Section shall be immune from civil liability, criminal prosecution, or disciplinary or other adverse action under any professional licensing statute for any outcomes resulting from the administration of the medication, unless personal injury results from the gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct of the practitioner administering the medication.
Section 2. This Act shall be known and may be cited as "The Danny's Dose EMS Treatment Act".
Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 253

SENATE BILL NO. 206
BY SENATORS MILLER, BARROW, BARTHELEMY, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, EDMONDS, HARRIS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, LUNEAU, MIZELL, OWEN, REESE AND STINE AND REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION, TERRY LANDRY, MARTINEZ, SCHLEGEL AND TAYLOR
AN ACT
To enact R.S. 17:440.4(C), relative to student athletes; to provide for cardiovascular prescreening; to provide for the distribution of educational materials about sudden cardiac arrest; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 17:440.4(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§440.4. Cardiac health; student athletes, parents; communication
* * *
C.(1) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, a qualified healthcare professional who performs a physical examination of a student athlete shall include in the examination a cardiovascular prescreening that follows nationally recognized, evidence-based guidelines recommended by the American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, or other nationally recognized organizations focused on evidence-based cardiovascular care.
(2) A student athlete with a positive finding shall be referred for further evaluation and testing.
(3) Educational materials that provide information about causes of sudden cardiac arrest in minor children that follow evidence-based science shall be distributed to parents or guardians of students participating in school sports as part of a student's required physical examination and completion of athletic permission forms.
Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 254

SENATE BILL NO. 218
BY SENATOR TALBOT
AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 18:59.4(D)(1), relative to certification programs; to provide for training programs approved by the State Board of Election Supervisors; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 18:59.4(D)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
§59.4. The Louisiana Voter Registration Administrators' Certification Program; requirements; compensation
* * *
D.(1) The requisite education and training will be provided through courses of the Certified Elections Registration Administrator program administered through Auburn University and the Election Center, a national certification designation**, or a substantially equivalent program approved by the State Board of Election Supervisors**. Any course taken by a registrar of voters, chief deputy registrar, or confidential assistant shall be a course that is required for the attainment of certification or maintenance of such certification.
* * *
Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 255

SENATE BILL NO. 235
BY SENATOR WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS
AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 38:2191(C) through (E) and to enact R.S. 38:2191(F), relative to payments under contract by public entities; to provide relative to payments due on certain public works contracts; to provide for withholding of liquidated damages; provide for exceptions; to provide for mandamus proceedings; to provide for attorney fees and interest; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. R.S. 38:2191(C) through (E) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 38:2191(F) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§2191. Payments under contract
* * *
C. **Except as provided in R.S. 38:2248(C), a public entity shall not withhold liquidated damages contested by the contractor from any payments or monies otherwise due, provided that payment to the contractor shall not prejudice the ability of a public entity to assert a claim for liquidated damages against the contractor in an ordinary proceeding. The prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees in connection with a public entity's claim for liquidated damages in an ordinary proceeding. A public entity shall be entitled to interest on liquidated damages recovered charged at one-half percent accumulated daily, not to exceed fifteen percent, accruing from the date of payment by the public entity of contested liquidated damages as provided for by this Subsection.**
D. The provisions of this Section shall not be subject to waiver by contract.
~~D~~**E**. Any public entity failing to make any progressive stage payments arbitrarily or without reasonable cause, or any final payment when due as provided in this Section, shall be subject to mandamus to compel the payment of the sums due under the contract up to the amount of the appropriation made for the award and execution of the contract, including any authorized change orders**, together with attorney fees and interest as provided for by this Section. If the public entity prevails in an action brought against it pursuant to this Subsection, the contractor shall be liable for reasonable attorney fees. Any claim by a public entity to recover liquidated damages pursuant to Subsection C of this Section shall not be subject to the mandamus proceeding**.
~~E~~**F**. A declaration that a public works contract is null and void as being contrary to the provisions of R.S. 38:2211 et seq. shall not affect amounts due and payable under the contract, including overhead and profit, for the work performed by or on behalf of the contractor.
Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature of 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 in 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 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 256

SENATE BILL NO. 248
BY SENATOR MILLER
AN ACT
To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 18:531.1(A) and 531.1(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 18:531.1(A)(3), relative to polling places; to provide that a polling place for a precinct is not required to be opened under certain circumstances; to provide relative to the powers, duties, and authority of registrars of voters relative to polling places; and to provide for related matters.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 18:531.1(A) and 531.1(A)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:531.1(A)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§531.1. ~~Exception~~ **Exceptions** to opening polls; alternative voting locations

* As it appears in the enrolled bill
CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored (House Bills) and underscored and **boldfaced** (Senate Bills) are additions.

A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the polling place for a particular precinct shall not be required to be opened in ~~either of~~ the following circumstances:

* * *

(2) **When it is determined by the registrar of voters that there are fewer than twenty voters eligible to vote in the voting district in the precinct, for any office or proposition on the ballot, and the location of the precinct's polling place serves as the polling place of another precinct where the remaining eligible voters may vote pursuant to Subsection C of this Section.**

(3) When it is determined by the registrar of voters after the close of early voting, that all voters eligible to vote in the precinct have voted absentee by mail or during early voting.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 257

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SENATE BILL NO. 275

BY SENATORS MYERS, BARROW, BASS, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, HARRIS, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, LUNEAU, OWEN AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVES BAGLEY, CHASSION, FIRMENT, GALLE, GLORIOSO, HEBERT, CHANCE HENRY, DANA HENRY, ILLG, JORDAN, MELERINE, MENA, MURRAY AND PHELPS

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 22:1037.1, relative to insurance coverage of the healthcare services provided by certified registered nurse anesthetists; to provide for reimbursement of services provided by a CRNA; 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. R.S. 22:1037.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1037.1. Health insurance coverage for healthcare services performed by certified registered nurse anesthetists

A. For any healthcare service personally performed by a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) without medical direction from a physician or dentist, as billed per the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Medicare Part B regulations, and within the CRNA's lawful scope of practice, the allowed amount of reimbursement shall be no less than the allowed amount the insurer would reimburse for the same service when personally performed by a physician, regardless of billing modifier or coding designation used to identify the provider of the service.

B. An insurer shall not deny participation or network inclusion to a CRNA solely on the basis of provider type or licensure.

C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to expand or limit the scope of practice of any licensed healthcare professional.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall apply to any new policy, contract, program, or health coverage plan issued on or after January 1, 2027. Any policy, contract, or health coverage plan in effect prior to January 1, 2027, shall convert to conform to the provisions of this Act on or before the renewal date, but no later than January 1, 2028.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 258

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SENATE BILL NO. 294

BY SENATOR TALBOT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 27:44(15), 205(16), and 353(9), relative to promotional play in certain forms of gaming; to provide for the allowable amount of promotional play deduction in certain forms of gaming; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 27:44(15), 205(16), and 353(9) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§44. Definitions

When used in this Chapter, the following terms shall mean:

* * *

(15) "Net gaming proceeds" means the total of all cash and property, including checks received by a licensee, whether collected or not, received by the licensee from gaming operations, less the total of all cash paid out as winnings to patrons and five million dollars annually directly attributable to promotional play wagers. **A licensee may assign all or part of the amount of the allowable deduction directly attributable to promotional wagers that is not claimed by the licensee for the same fiscal year to another licensee licensed pursuant to Chapters 4, 5, and 7 of this Title. The assignment shall be in writing and both the licensee assigning the deduction and the licensee to which the deduction is assigned shall report the assignment to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.**

* * *

§205. Definitions

When used in this Chapter, the following terms have these meanings:

* * *

(16) "Gross revenue" means the total of all value received by the casino gaming operator from gaming operations, including cash, checks, vouchers, instruments and anything received in payment for credit extended to a patron for purposes of gaming, and compensation received for conducting any game in which the casino gaming operator is not party to a wager, less the total of all value or amounts paid out as winnings to patrons and credit instruments or checks which are uncollected as determined by rule of the corporation and five million dollars annually directly attributable to promotional play wagers. **The casino gaming operator may assign all or part of the amount of the allowable deduction directly attributable to promotional wagers that is not claimed by the casino gaming operator for the same fiscal year to another licensee licensed pursuant to Chapters 4 and 7 of this Title. The assignment shall be in writing and both the casino gaming operator assigning the deduction and the licensee to which the deduction is assigned shall report the assignment to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.**

* * *

§353. Definitions

When used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have these meanings:

* * *

(9) "Net slot machine proceeds" means the total of all cash and property received by a licensee from slot machine gaming operations minus the amount of cash or prizes paid to winners and five million dollars annually directly attributable to promotional play wagers. **A licensee may assign all or part of the amount of the allowable deduction directly attributable to promotional wagers that is not claimed by the licensee for the same fiscal year to another licensee licensed pursuant to Chapters 4, 5, and 7 of this Title. The assignment shall be in writing and both the licensee assigning the deduction and the licensee to which the deduction is assigned shall report the assignment to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board.**

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2026, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 259

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 310

BY SENATOR CLOUD AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, BROUSSARD, CARLSON, CARVER AND TAYLOR

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:3384 and R.S. 40:31.4, relative to student health centers; to provide with respect to student heath centers in public schools; to provide with respect to student health centers on public postsecondary education institution campuses; to provide for the posting of certain information; to provide for pregnancy information and resources; to provide with respect to the design and content of the poster; to provide for requirements of the staff of student health centers; to provide for donations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3384 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3384. Pregnancy information; student health centers

A.(1) Any student health center on the campus of a public postsecondary education institution shall display signs approved or provided by the Louisiana Department of Health, and its designated nonprofit organization, in the prescribed locations and in the manner provided for in this Subsection.

(a) The text of each sign shall read as follows:

"Pregnant? Help Is Available for You and Your Baby!"

(b) A website link to the department's pregnancy information and pregnancy resources shall be printed on the sign.

(2) The department, or its designated nonprofit organization, shall design and produce the signs. Each sign shall incorporate color graphics. Each sign shall be printed on durable signage material that is at least sixteen inches by twenty inches, and the text shall be printed in a large, easily readable font.

B. Student health center staff shall display the signs in each patient admission area, patient waiting room, and patient consultation room.

C. This Subsection does not require the Louisiana Department of Health to spend its funds to purchase such signs. The Louisiana Department of Health may spend donated funds to purchase the signs provided for in this Section or may accept donated signs provided for in this Section as long as the donated signs are approved by the Louisiana Department of Health.

D. As used in this Section, "designated nonprofit organization" means a private, nonprofit organization that is tax-exempt under the United States Internal Revenue Code, pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3), and that is designated by the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health to assist the department in furtherance of the provisions of this Section.

Section 2. R.S. 40:31.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

§31.4. Pregnancy information; health centers in schools

A.(1) Any school health center as provided in R.S. 40:31.3 in a public high school shall display signs provided by the Louisiana Department of Health, or its designated nonprofit organization, in the prescribed locations and in the manner provided for in this Subsection.

(a) The text of each sign shall read as follows:

"Pregnant? Help Is Available for You and Your Baby!"

(b) A website link to the department's pregnancy information and pregnancy resources shall be printed on the sign.

(2) The department, or its designated nonprofit organization, shall design and produce the signs. Each sign shall incorporate color graphics. Each sign shall be printed on durable signage material that is at least sixteen inches by twenty inches, and the text shall be printed in a large, easily readable font.

B. Student health center staff shall display the signs in each patient admission area, patient waiting room, and patient consultation room.

C. This Subsection does not require the Louisiana Department of Health to spend its funds to purchase such signs. The Louisiana Department of Health may spend donated funds to purchase the signs provided for in this Section or may accept donated signs provided for in this Section as long as the donated signs are approved by the Louisiana Department of Health.

D. As used in this Section, "designated nonprofit organization" means a private, nonprofit organization that is tax-exempt under the United States Internal Revenue Code, pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3), and that is designated by the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health to assist the department in furtherance of the provisions of this Section.

Section 3. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Signs of Hope Act".

Section 4. 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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 260

SENATE BILL NO. 315

BY SENATOR REESE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 38:2316, relative to professional service contract exemptions; to provide for thresholds; to provide for contract requirements; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 38:2316 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2316. Applicability

Except as provided in R.S. 38:2311(C), the provisions of this Part shall not apply to professional service contracts in which the estimated project budget cost is ~~one~~ **two** million dollars or less. **Any agency that enters into more than one professional services contract in any given fiscal year shall ensure that not less than fifty percent of the total number of such contracts are awarded to separate, distinct, and unaffiliated professional services firms if such contracts are exempt pursuant to the provisions of this Section.**

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2026, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 261

SENATE BILL NO. 324

BY SENATOR REESE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 39:100.56(C), (O)(1)(b), (2), (3), (7), and (8) and to enact R.S. 39:100.56(K)(4) and (O)(12), (13), and (14), relative to the Water Sector Program; to provide relative to the administration of the program; to provide relative to Phase II Subfund and Emergency Subfund grant awards; to provide relative to guidance and application period requirements; to provide relative to the authority of the Water Sector Commission; to provide relative to rate study requirements; to remove outdated deadlines; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 39:100.56(C), (O)(1)(b), (2), (3), (7), and (8) are hereby amended and reenacted R.S. 39:100.56(K)(4) and (O)(12), (13), and (14) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§100.56. Water Sector Program

* * *

C. The Water Sector Program is hereby established to provide grant funding for repairs, improvements, and consolidation of community water and sewer systems. The division of administration~~, office of facility planning and control,~~ and the office of community development shall administer the program in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Health and the Department of Environmental Quality. The division shall establish a working panel comprised of employees of ~~the office of facility planning and control and~~ the office of community development, within the division of administration, the office of public health within the Louisiana Department of Health, and the Department of Environmental Quality. The working panel shall review and rate applications submitted by community water systems, community sewer systems, and local governing authorities and submit recommendations for funding to the commission.

* * *

K.(1)

* * *

(4) The commission may approve modifications to the scope of work of the original grant award. Commission approval shall not be required for minor technical changes that do not affect the purpose of the project, including the means and methods of construction.

* * *

O.(1)(a)

* * *

(b)(i) Any monies deposited into the Emergency Subfund shall be used only to provide emergency grant funding to address or mitigate an emergency related to a community water system as defined in R.S. 40:5.8 or community sewer system as defined in the state Sanitary Code, if such system is under a court-appointed receivership in accordance with R.S. 30:2075.3, R.S. 33:42, or R.S. 40:5.9, or under the appointment of a fiscal administrator**, limited fiscal administrator, or receiver,** in accordance with R.S. 39:1351 et seq.

(ii) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, any award of emergency grant funding shall be made in accordance with the procedures and requirements for requests and approvals of funding for emergencies**, limited fiscal administrator,** and receivership expenses as provided in the guidance promulgated pursuant to this Subsection.

(2) The commission shall ~~hold a meeting no later than September 1, 2024, to~~ submit priorities to the division to utilize in the development of guidance for emergency grants and any new grants awarded pursuant to the Water Sector Program on or after July 1, 2024. **The commission shall update priorities to the division as needed.**

(3) ~~Upon receipt, the~~ **The** division shall promulgate guidance for the award and administration of emergency grants and any new grants awarded after July 1, 2024. The guidance shall include application requirements, deadlines for application submissions and approval, criteria for ratings, **rate study and matching fund requirements,** a process for prioritizing critical infrastructure needs, and procedures for requests and approvals of funding for emergencies**, limited fiscal administrator,** and receivership expenses. The Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., shall not apply to guidance promulgated pursuant to this Subsection. ~~No later than October 1, 2024, the~~ **The** division shall submit the proposed guidance to the commission for review and approval. Any changes to the guidance shall require approval by the commission.

* * *

(7) Within ~~forty-five~~ **sixty** days of the end of the application period, the division shall submit ratings of the proposed projects by the working panel established in Subsection C of this Section and recommendations for funding for the projects to the commission.

(8)**(a)** The commission shall review the ratings and recommendations submitted by the working panel. The commission shall submit its recommendations for grant awards to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. The recommendations shall include:

~~(a)~~**(i)** The amount of proposed matching funds for each project or a recommendation for a waiver or a decreased match for any project based on the commission's determination that the local governing authority or water system is unable to provide the full, required match.

~~(b)~~**(ii)** Funding for ~~small water and sewer systems~~ **critical infrastructure needs** as provided for in the guidance.

(b) The commission may submit recommendations for subsequent grant awards to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget based upon the ratings and recommendations of the working panel without requiring a new application period.

* * *

(12) The commission may rescind any grant award for a project if the grant recipient fails to comply with the guidance approved by the commission.

(13) Any grant recipient that fails to comply with the rate study requirements pursuant to this Subsection shall be ineligible to receive future Water Sector Program grant awards.

(14) The commission may approve modifications to the scope of work of the original grant award. Commission approval shall not be required for minor technical changes that do not affect the purpose of the project, including the means and methods of construction.

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

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

the day following such approval.
Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 262

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 397
BY SENATOR REESE
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 18:586(C), relative to vacancies; to provide for vacancies when an elected official has retired, resigned, or been removed from office; to prohibit an official who has retired, resigned, or been removed from office from being appointed to or qualifying for election to the same office in which the official resigned, retired, or was removed; to provide for certain exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:586(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§586. Vacancies caused by retirement, resignation, or removal; prohibitions

* * *

C. This Section does not purport to impact the constitutional authority of the supreme court to appoint a sitting or retired judge to any court, and the provisions of Subsection A of this Section shall not be applicable to judgeships.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 263

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 416
BY SENATOR PRICE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:149(B) and to enact R.S. 11:416(A)(4), relative to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide relative to the reemployment of retirees to fill certain shortages within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services; to provide for qualifications; to provide for definitions; to provide for advertisement requirements; to provide for benefits; to provide for contributions; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:149(B) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:416(A)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§149. Reemployment of retirees

* * *

B. Any person who retires under any early retirement incentive plan of the state of Louisiana for state employees shall not be reemployed by any department of state government for two years after the effective date of their retirement. The provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to seasonal fire fighting personnel employed by the office of forestry in the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, ~~and~~ election-related personnel in the Department of State**, or rehired employees who fill critical shortage positions within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services**. Reemployment of election personnel shall not exceed six weeks prior to an election and two weeks following an election.

* * *

§416. Employment of retirees

A. Regardless of age, if a retiree of the system is engaged or hereafter engages in employment which otherwise would render him eligible for membership in the system, he shall choose one of the following irrevocable options:

* * *

(4) Option 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section or any other law to the contrary, any retiree of the system, who has been retired for at least one year from the effective date of his retirement, may be reemployed to fill certain critical shortage positions within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services, subject to all of the following:

(a) For the purposes of this Subsection, a "critical shortage position" is defined as a full-time position for which the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services, has advertised in accordance with Louisiana civil service rules and has received an insufficient number of suitable applicants. The secretary shall determine candidate suitability based on operational needs and institutional requirements. Critical shortage positions shall include but are not limited to the following full-time positions, as certified by the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections based on fluctuating critical needs:

(i) Major.
(ii) Captain.
(iii) Lieutenant.
(iv) Specialized sergeant-master.
(v) Cadet, sergeant, or master sergeant.
(vi) Registered nurse.
(vii) Licensed practical nurse.
(viii) Social worker.

(b) Prior to the posting of a critical shortage position pursuant to this Paragraph, the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall certify in writing the need to fill the vacancy.

(c) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall annually review and certify in writing the continued necessity of filling the critical shortage position or the continued reemployment of the retiree in the position.

(d) A retiree reemployed in a critical shortage position pursuant to this Subsection shall be entitled to receive his full retirement benefits during the period of reemployment.

(e) During the period of reemployment in a critical shortage position, both the reemployed retiree and the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services, shall make contributions to the retirement system as required by the system. However, the reemployed retiree shall not earn additional service credit or accrue any additional retirement benefits. Upon termination of reemployment, the retiree shall be refunded the employee contributions made during the period of reemployment, without interest. Employer contributions made during this period shall be retained by the retirement system.

(f) No member of this system who retires based on a disability shall return to service pursuant to the provisions of this Paragraph. Disability retirees shall be governed by the provisions of this Chapter applicable to disability retirees.

* * *

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.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 264

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 420
BY SENATOR HENSGENS
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 48:2094(C) and 2094(H) and to enact R.S. 48:2094(C)(8) and (9), relative to the Lafayette Metropolitan Expressway Commission; to provide for commissioners of the Lafayette Metropolitan Expressway Commission; to provide for the boundary and jurisdiction of the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 48:2094(C) and 2094(H) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 48:2094(C)(8) and (9) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2094. Lafayette Metropolitan Expressway Commission; creation; board of directors; meetings; quorum

* * *

C. The board shall be composed of ~~eleven~~ **thirteen** directors who shall be the governing body of the commission with full power to promulgate rules and regulations for the maintenance and operation of said authority as follows:

* * *

(8) One member appointed by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury President.
(9) One member appointed by the Iberia Parish President.

* * *

H. The boundary and jurisdiction of the commission shall be coextensive with the boundaries of Lafayette ~~Parish~~, **Vermilion, and Iberia parishes of** Louisiana.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 265

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 442
BY SENATOR STINE
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 47:337.9(G), relative to sales and use tax; to authorize a local sales and use tax exemption; to establish an exemption for the repair of certain aircraft, including interior modifications, overhaul, and upgrades; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:337.9(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§337.9. Exemptions applicable to local tax in Chapters 2, 2-A, and 2-B; other exemptions applicable

* * *

G. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 47:301.7, charges for the furnishing

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

of repairs, including interior modifications, overhaul, and upgrades, to an aircraft registered outside of Louisiana shall be exempt from the sales and use taxes levied by any taxing authority in Calcasieu Parish provided that the repairs are performed at an airport with a runway that is at least ten thousand seven hundred feet long and two hundred feet wide with a layer of concrete that is at least seventeen inches thick. The provisions of this Subsection shall be applicable only to local sales and use taxes levied by taxing authorities in Calcasieu Parish.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall apply to taxable periods beginning on or after July 1, 2026.

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 effective on July 1, 2026, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 266

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 455
BY SENATOR TALBOT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1903(B)(2) and to enact R.S. 11:1903(A)(5) and (H), relative to the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for a district court or parish court; to provide for membership; to provide for irrevocable elections; to provide for transfer credits; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1903(B)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:1903(A)(5) and (H) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1903. Admission of certain entities as employers

A. The following entities may submit, for approval by the board of trustees, a plan for extending the benefits of this Chapter to employees of the entity:

* * *

(5) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any district court or parish court in the state.

B. Each such plan or any amendment thereof shall be approved by the board of trustees if it finds that such plan, or such plan as amended, is in conformity with regulations of the board of trustees, except that no such plan shall be approved unless:

* * *

(2)**(a)** ~~It~~ **Except as provided for in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, it** covers all services which are performed in the employ of the entity, by any employees thereof, and it extends benefits to all employees of the entity.

(b) The board may approve the plan of an entity provided for in Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section that does not cover all services performed in the employ of the entity and does not extend benefits to all employees of the entity.

* * *

H.(1) Any employee of an entity provided for in Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section hired before the employer extended the benefits of this Chapter to its employees may make an irrevocable election to become a member of the system if that employee is enrolled in another public retirement system covering the same employment, has not participated in the deferred retirement option plan of, or retired from, that other system, and has not previously exercised an irrevocable election to remain a member of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System pursuant to R.S. 11:160 through 417 for the same employment. The system shall produce all necessary forms for this purpose.

(2) Any employee who makes a timely election to join this system pursuant to this Subsection has the same rights as any other system member to enter into a reciprocal recognition agreement pursuant to R.S. 11:142 or transfer service credit pursuant to R.S. 11:143, provided however, that no person who transfers service credit to this system shall have the right to execute a reverse transfer pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 11:143(F)(1).

Section 2. The provisions of R.S. 11:1903 shall authorize approval of any district or parish court covering designated classes of employees even if other positions paid with funds of the court are required by law to be members of other public retirement systems. Any member currently enrolled in another public retirement system shall be given until January 1, 2027, to make an irrevocable election to become a member of the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana or remain a member of their prior system.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 267

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 456
BY SENATOR TALBOT
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1384(A) and to enact R.S. 11:551(C), (D), and (E) and 566(C), relative to assigned retired judges; to provide for membership eligibility in a retirement system; to provide for irrevocable elections; to provide for methods of compensation; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:1384(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:551(C), (D), and (E) and 566(C) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§551. Eligibility for membership

* * *

C. The provisions of Subsection B of this Section shall not be applicable to the provisions of R.S. 11:566 or 1384 concerning retired judges serving on assignment.

D. For purposes of this Subpart, "membership in one of the state systems" shall mean and include the initial date the judge or court officer became a member in any public retirement system, plan, or fund.

E. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any member subject to the provisions of this Subpart shall be authorized to make an irrevocable election within thirty days of employment for their membership service, retirement eligibility and benefits, and contributions to be limited to that of a regular member of this system. Any election pursuant to this Subsection shall be made on forms promulgated by the system for this purpose.

* * *

§566. Assigned judges

* * *

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the supreme court may elect to apply the provisions of R.S. 11:1384 to appointments made pursuant to this Section or under its inherent constitutional authority.

* * *

§1384. Assigned retired judges; optional method of compensation, expenses

A.**(1)** In lieu of the compensation established for assigned retired judges by R.S. 11:566 and R.S. 11:1351 through 1358, the supreme court may assign a retired judge to a court on a contractual or per diem basis. In such case, and notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 11:1381 ~~or 443~~ **or any other provision of law** to the contrary, the assigned retired judge shall be entitled to compensation, in addition to his retirement pay, in an amount equal to one-twentieth of the monthly salary of a judge of the court to which he is assigned for each day of service under such assignment, but not to exceed one hundred twenty working or judicial days in a fiscal year. In addition, such a judge shall be entitled to reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of such service. The assignment of a retired judge under this ~~section~~ **Section** shall not result in the **suspension or** termination of his pension or retirement status as provided by R.S. 11:1381 **or any other provision of law**.

(2) The supreme court may set the compensation payable to an assigned retired judge at an amount lower than the amount specified in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. If the compensation claimed and payable does not exceed three-fifths of the amount otherwise authorized in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, then the annual limitation on the number of working or judicial days provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply.

* * *

Section 2. Nothing in this Act shall reduce an employee contribution rate otherwise established by law. The cost of this Act, if any, shall be funded with additional employer contribution 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 in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, the Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 268

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 476
BY SENATOR PRESSLY
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Arts. 2412(A)(1) and 2413(B) and (C), relative to garnishments; to provide relative to service of notice upon the garnishee; to provide relative to notice of failure to answer interrogatories in certain circumstances; to provide relative to civil procedure and legal delays; to provide for certain notice requirements; to provide relative to effect of the garnishee's failure to answer; to provide relative to cost and attorney fees; to provide relative to the garnishee's failure to appear; to provide for burden of proof; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Arts. 2412 (A)(1) and 2413(B) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 2412. Method of service; delay for answering

A.(1) The sheriff shall serve upon the garnishee the citation and a copy of the petition and of the interrogatories, together with a notice that a seizure

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

is thereby effected against any property of or indebtedness to the judgment debtor. **The notice shall include the following statement in boldface type: "The failure to file into the court record within thirty days your sworn answer to these interrogatories may cause you to be personally responsible for the entire amount owed by the judgment debtor."**

* * *

Art. 2413. Effect of garnishee's failure to answer

* * *

B.**(1)** Judgment shall be rendered against the garnishee on trial of the motion unless he proves that he had no property of and was not indebted to the judgment debtor. If on the trial of such motion, the garnishee proves the amount of such property or indebtedness, the judgment against the garnishee shall be limited to the delivery of the property or payment of the indebtedness, as provided in Article 2415.

(2) If the judgment was rendered pursuant to this Paragraph against the garnishee as a result of his failure to appear after proper service, the garnishee shall have thirty days from service of the judgment to move for a new trial.

(3) Any motion for a new trial pursuant to Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph shall be granted only if it includes an affidavit affirming the facts that the garnishee is required to prove under Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph.

(4) At any new trial granted pursuant to this Paragraph, the garnishee bears the burden of proof that he never had any property of and was never indebted to the judgment debtor during the pendency of the garnishment proceeding, or that he has satisfied the judgment to the full extent of the amount of such property or indebtedness actually in his possession at any time after the garnishment proceeding is commenced by service of the petition upon him.

C. Regardless of the decision on the contradictory motion, the court shall render judgment against the garnishee for the costs and a reasonable attorney fee for the motion. **This shall include an award against the garnishee for the additional costs and a reasonable attorney fee actually incurred by the judgment creditor due to the fault of the garnishee in failing to initially respond.**

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 269

SENATE BILL NO. 477

BY SENATOR PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:164(A)(3) and R.S. 27:14(B)(2) and to enact R.S. 11:411(16), relative to part-time public officials; to provide for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide membership eligibility; to provide for the chairman of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board; to provide for full-time employment; to provide for compensation and benefits; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 11:164(A)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:411(16) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§164. Part-time public officials

A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this Section, the following elected or appointed officials are hereby deemed to be part-time public servants who, based on such part-time service, shall not participate in, or receive credit for service in, any public retirement system, fund, or plan sponsored by the state of Louisiana or any instrumentality or political subdivision thereof:

* * *

(3) Any member of a board or commission established by the state of Louisiana or any instrumentality or political subdivision thereof **unless authorized by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house**.

* * *

§411. Eligibility for membership

The membership of this system shall be as follows:

* * *

(16) The chairman of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board, appointed and employed in such position on or after July 1, 2024.

Section 2. R.S. 27:14(B)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§14. Compensation

* * *

B.(1)

* * *

(2) The chairman of the board shall devote full time to his duties as chairman and shall not engage in any other business or profession. During such service, the chairman shall ~~not earn compensation of any kind other than his salary paid as a board member. The chairman shall~~ **be considered a full-time employee of the state. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the chairman shall be eligible for membership in the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and shall not earn compensation of any kind other than that of an adjunct professor and** receive an annual salary equal in amount to **that of** a judge of the courts of appeal of this state, ~~as provided in R.S. 13:311~~ **which amount shall include expenses, benefits, emoluments, and any supplemental pay to which such judges are entitled**.

* * *

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 15, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 270

SENATE BILL NO. 318

BY SENATOR REESE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1517(B)(1) and the introductory paragraph of (2), to enact R.S. 47:1517(G) and 1517.3, and to repeal R.S. 47:1517(B)(3) and (4) and (C) and 1517.1(B)(4), relative to the tax exemption budget; to provide for the publication of the tax exemption budget; to provide for the contents of the tax exemption budget; to require parish collectors to report certain information; to provide relative to the categorization of tax exemptions; to repeal assessment requirements; to repeal certain reporting requirements on tax incentives; to provide for the creation and requirements of the business tax benefit report; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:1517(B)(1) and the introductory paragraph of (2) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 47:1517(G) and 1517.3 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1517. Tax exemption budget

* * *

B.(1) The annual tax exemption budget shall be published on the ~~LaTrac~~ **Department of Revenue's** website, ~~or any subsequent database that may replace the LaTrac system,~~ and shall include the following:

(a) Each tax exemption~~,~~ **and** its statutory citation~~, and its purpose~~.

(b) The revenue loss to the state caused by each tax exemption for the three preceding years, the estimated revenue loss to the state caused by each tax exemption for the current fiscal year, and the estimated revenue loss to the state caused by each tax exemption for the ensuing fiscal year.

~~(c) The estimated cost of administering and implementing each tax exemption for the three preceding fiscal years, the current fiscal year, and the ensuing fiscal year.~~

~~(d) The tax exemption budget shall also include the following:~~

~~(i) The number of businesses which receive each tax exemption, credit, exclusion, refund, preferential tax rate, deferred tax liability, or rebate, hereinafter referred to in this Subsection as the exemption.~~

~~(ii) The parish or location of each business which receives a tax exemption; provided, that if fewer than ten businesses receive a particular tax exemption, the tax exemption budget may group such tax exemption with another tax exemption which also has fewer than ten businesses receiving it.~~

~~(iii) The information shall be displayed in a manner that identifies:~~

~~(aa) The industry group by North American Industry Classification System sector.~~

~~(bb) The number of taxpayers by industry.~~

~~(cc) The total tax burden by industry group by individual tax before the exemption.~~

~~(dd) The total value to each industry group for each exemption.~~

~~(ee) The total tax value by each industry group by individual tax of the tax collections after the exemption.~~

~~(e) The items contained in Subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph shall be published to the extent that the information is available to the department, on a schedule to be determined by the secretary of the department, beginning with the incentive expenditures, and fully implemented by the date of publication of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 tax exemption budget on or before March 1, 2020. The secretary shall ensure that the publication shall not include confidential information.~~

(2) ~~The tax exemptions~~ **Each tax exemption** in the annual tax exemption budget shall also be ~~organized in an additional opening schedule as follows~~ **classified into one of the following categories**:

* * *

G.(1) The single sales and use tax collector for each parish shall prepare and submit a tax exemption budget for all exclusions, exemptions, deductions, credits, rebates, and preferential tax treatments applicable to the local sales and use taxes it administers in accordance with requirements in Paragraph (B)(1) of this Section. The tax exemption budget required by this Subsection shall be prepared annually and submitted to the governor and the legislature no later than March first of each year, in the same manner and form as required for the tax exemption budget prepared by the Department of Revenue pursuant to this Section.

(2)(a) Each collector shall submit the information required by this Subsection to the Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board, which shall compile, review, and transmit the information to the governor and the legislature.

(b) The Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board may adopt rules and establish procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this Subsection,

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

including standardized reporting formats and deadlines for submission by local collectors.

* * *

§1517.3. Business tax benefit report

A. No later than the first day of September of each year, the secretary of the Department of Revenue shall prepare and submit to the governor and the legislature a business tax benefit report in the manner set forth in this Section.

B. The business tax benefit report shall include a listing of each tax exemption as defined in R.S. 47:1517(E) that provides tax savings or a financial benefit to businesses. The report shall not include tax treatments required by federal law, including those relating to interstate commerce, or provisions that are part of the general tax structure of the tax system rather than enacted to provide a targeted tax preference.

C. The information shall be displayed in a manner that identifies all of the following:

(1) The industry group by North American Industry Classification System sector.

(2) The number of taxpayers by industry.

(3) The total tax burden by industry group by tax type before the exemption.

(4) The total value to each industry group for each exemption.

(5) The total tax burden by industry group by tax type after the exemption.

D. The items required by this Section shall not include confidential information.

Section 2. R.S. 47:1517(B)(3) and (4) and (C) and 1517.1(B)(4) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 3. The first business tax benefit report shall be due on September 1, 2026.

Section 4. 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. 271

HOUSE BILL NO. 51
BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article I, Section 18(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the right to bail; to prohibit bail for offenders who have been convicted of certain offenses; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

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 of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article I, Section 18(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§18. Right to Bail

Section 18.

* * *

(C) However, after conviction, a person shall not be bailable if the offense is an aggravated offense as defined by R.S. 15:541 that is committed against a victim who is a minor.

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 November 3, 2026.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the 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 prohibit a defendant from being released on any post-conviction bail if the defendant is convicted of an aggravated offense against a minor child? (Adds Article I, Section 18(C))

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 272

HOUSE BILL NO. 214
BY REPRESENTATIVES CHANCE HENRY AND CHASSION AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, AND PRICE

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article VII, Section 21(P) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to ad valorem taxes; to authorize the exemption of certain property from ad valorem taxes subject to conditions provided in law; to require the legislature to enact laws relative to implementation of the exemption; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

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 of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article VII, Section 21(P) 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:

* * *

(P) There shall be an optional ad valorem tax exemption for blighted or derelict property that has been rehabilitated. The legislature shall enact laws defining blighted property, derelict property, and any other terms as may be necessary for implementing the exemption provided for in this Paragraph. The legislature shall establish in law the term of the exemption and the conditions, requirements, and procedures necessary for a political subdivision to administer the exemption.Section 2. Be it further resolved that the provisions of the amendment contained in this Joint Resolution shall become effective on January 1, 2027, and apply to tax years beginning on or after 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 the 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 property tax exemptions for blighted or derelict properties that have been rehabilitated, and to require the legislature to enact laws providing for administration of these exemptions? (Effective January 1, 2027) (Adds Article VII, Section 21(P))

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 273

HOUSE BILL NO. 521
BY REPRESENTATIVES WILDER, AMEDEE, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOUDREAUX, BOURRIAQUE, BRASS, CARVER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, COATES, COX, CREWS, DESHOTEL, DEWITT, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, EGAN, FIRMENT, FONTENOT, FREIBERG, GALLE, HEBERT, HORTON, KNOX, LACOMBE, JACOB LANDRY, MARTINEZ, MELERINE, OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, TAYLOR, TURNER, WILEY, AND WRIGHT

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to ad valorem property tax millage rate adjustments; to provide for maximum authorized millage rates; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

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 of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§23. Adjustment of Ad Valorem Tax Millages

Section 23.

* * *

(C) Increases Permitted. Nothing herein shall prohibit a taxing authority from collecting, in the year in which Sections 18 and 20 of this Article are implemented or in any subsequent year, a larger dollar amount of ad valorem taxes by (1) levying additional or increased millages as provided by law or (2) placing additional property on the tax rolls. Increases in the millage rate in excess of the rates established as provided by Paragraph (B) ~~above~~ of this Section but not in excess of the ~~prior year's~~ maximum authorized millage rate approved by this constitution and approved by the taxing authority until the authorized millage rate expires may be levied by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of a taxing authority without further voter approval but only after a public hearing held in accordance with the open meetings law; however, in addition to any other requirements of the open meetings law, public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of such hearing shall be published on two separate days no less than thirty days before the public hearing. Such public notice shall be published in the official journal of the taxing authority, and another newspaper with a larger circulation within the taxing authority than the official journal of the taxing authority, if there is one.

* * *

Section 2. Be it further resolved that the provisions of the amendment contained in this Joint Resolution shall become effective January 1, 2027, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning on or after 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.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the 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 a local taxing authority to continue to levy a lower millage rate without losing its ability to adjust to the maximum authorized millage rate from a prior year's reassessment? (Effective January 1, 2027) (Amends Article VII, Section 23(C))

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 274

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 514
BY REPRESENTATIVES FARNUM AND CHASSION
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article VII, Section 21(P) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to ad valorem taxation; to extend an ad valorem tax exemption for property owners who are sixty-five years of age or older; to provide for the amount of the exemption; to provide for requirements and limitations; to provide for implementation of the exemption by parishes and municipalities; to prohibit the reappraisal and valuation of property for purposes of millage adjustments under certain circumstances; to provide for applicability; to provide for an effective date; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

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 of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article VII, Section 21(P) 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:

* * *

(P)(1) 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, an additional exemption shall apply to property receiving the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a person who is at least sixty-five years of age or older and who qualifies for the special assessment level pursuant to Article VII, Section 18(G)(1)(a)(i) of this constitution. The amount of the additional exemption shall be as follows:

(a) For persons sixty-five years of age but not yet sixty-nine years of age, the next six thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the property shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(b) For persons sixty-nine years of age but not yet seventy-three years of age, the next twelve thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the property shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(c) For persons seventy-three years of age but not yet seventy-seven years of age, the next eighteen thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the property shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(d) For persons seventy-seven years of age but not yet eighty-one years of age, the next twenty-four thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the property shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(e) For persons eighty-one years of age and older, the next thirty thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the property shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation.

(2) The surviving spouse of a property owner claiming the exemption shall be eligible for the exemption provided for in this Paragraph if the surviving spouse occupies and remains the owner of or retains a usufruct on the property and is not more than five years younger than the owner.

(3) The exemption provided in this Paragraph shall be applicable in any parish or municipality in which the exemption has been approved by a majority of the electors of the parish or municipality voting at an election called for that purpose.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution to the contrary, any decrease in the total amount of ad valorem tax collected by the taxing authority as a result of the exemption shall be absorbed by the taxing authority and shall not create any additional tax liability for other taxpayers in the taxing district as a result of any subsequent reappraisal and valuation or millage adjustment. Implementation of the exemption authorized in this Paragraph shall neither trigger nor be cause for a reappraisal of property or an adjustment of millages pursuant to the provisions of Section 23(B) of this Article.

(5) A trust shall be eligible for the exemption provided for in this Paragraph as provided by law.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that the provisions of the amendment contained in this Joint Resolution shall become effective January 1, 2028, and shall be applicable to all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2028.

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 the 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 authorize parishes and municipalities to extend an additional property tax exemption for property subject to the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a person who is at least sixty-five years of age and who qualifies for the special assessment level? (Effective January 1, 2028) (Adds Article VII, Section 21(P))

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 275

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 232
BY SENATOR MILLER AND REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION
AN ACT

To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 13:10.3(D) and 103 and to enact R.S. 13:10.3(D)(3) and (4), relative to funding of the Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund; to provide relative to public retirement systems; to provide relative to certain justices, judges, and commissioners; to provide relative to funding for certain reserves; to provide for the reimbursement of unvouchered expenses; to provide for the adjustment of the amount payable from self-generated funds; 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. 13:10.3(D) and 103 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:10.3(D)(3) and (4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§10.3. Judges' Supplemental Compensation Fund; creation; sources of funds

* * *

D. After making provisions for necessary and associated administrative expenses, **including those invoiced by the judicial administrator for services actually provided,** the board shall authorize the judicial administrator to set aside and transmit monthly an amount to provide the additional employer's retirement contribution due by the state on the supplemental compensation to the **relevant** State Employees' Retirement System on behalf of the judges who are members of ~~the~~ **a public retirement** system. The board, through the judicial administrator, shall then distribute the proceeds from the fund monthly, as follows:

* * *

(3) The provisions of this Subsection shall apply only to a justice, judge, or commissioner serving in an office listed in Paragraph (D)(1) or (2) who has either served in any of those offices on or before December 31, 2026, or has served in any of those offices for at least three years after December 31, 2026.

(4) Any savings as a result of the provisions of this Subsection shall not be used to increase the amounts provided for under this Subsection to any amount higher than the amount paid during Fiscal Year 2025-26 and shall be retained to provide a reserve to maintain the stability of the fund. The reserve may be used during any reduction in the fund's receipts to maintain stability in payments.

* * *

§103. Expenses of chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court; reimbursement

A. The chief justice and each associate justice of the supreme court shall be reimbursed for reasonable housing and other **otherwise unreimbursed unvouchered** expenses incurred while on official duty, payable out of the self-generated funds provided for in R.S. 13:124 in amounts not to exceed the amounts allocated under the authority of this Section as of May 1, 1989.

B. The allowance payable from self-generated funds as provided for in this Section shall be adjusted for inflation on January first of each year by the change in the consumer price index - U.S. city average for all urban consumers (CPI-U) as prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, applied annually, and shall reflect the change, if any, since the amount was last modified, provided that any adjustment in a monthly amount shall be made only in whole increments of one hundred dollars.

Section 2. Section 1 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, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

Section 3. Section 2 of this Act shall take effect and become operative if and when the Act which originated as House Bill No. 398 of this 2026 Regular Session of the Legislature is enacted and becomes effective.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 276

- - -

SENATE BILL NO. 357
BY SENATOR REESE
AN ACT

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:72.1, 74, 76, and 353(B) and R.S. 40:2405(B), Code of Civil Procedure Article 157(A) and (B)(2), and Code of Criminal Procedure Article 679(E), to enact R.S. 13:103.1 and Code of Civil Procedure Article 157(C), and to repeal R.S. 13:75 and 353(C), relative to the courts and the judiciary; to provide relative to the supreme court; to provide relative to courts of last resort of other states; to provide relative to adoption of rules; to provide relative to criers for the supreme court; to provide relative to the court's security personnel; to provide relative to statewide police power; to provide relative to security for the courts of appeal; to provide relative to the deputy secretary of public safety services; to provide relative to a justice's primary residence; to provide relative to filing, case management, and related technology; to provide relative to certain vouchered expenses; to provide relative to reimbursement for official expenses; to provide relative to duly adopted rules of the court; to provide relative to employee compensation; to provide relative to public retirement systems; to provide relative to retirement of a crier of the supreme court; to provide for commissions issued to court security personnel; to provide relative to recusal; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:72.1, 74, 76, and 353(B) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:103.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§72.1. Declaration of state law to federal **or other** courts

A. The supreme court of this state may, by rule of court, provide that when it shall appear to the Supreme Court of the United States, or to any court ~~of appeals~~ of the United States, **or to the courts of last resort of other states,** that there are involved, in any proceeding before it, questions or propositions of the laws of this state, which are determinative of the said cause, and there is no clear controlling precedent in the decisions of the supreme court of this state, such ~~federal appellate~~ court may certify such questions or propositions of the laws of this state to the supreme court of this state for instructions concerning such questions or propositions of state law, which certificate the supreme court of this state may, by written opinion, answer.

B. The supreme court of this state is hereby authorized and empowered to **adopt all rules it deems appropriate to administer this Section and to** collaborate with any and all other courts of last resort of other states and of the United States in the preparation and approval of uniform rules of court to make effective this and similar laws. **The provisions of Subsection A of this Section are applicable and operative only to the extent of any rules duly adopted by the supreme court.**

* * *

§74. Crier for Supreme Court; salary

There ~~shall~~ **may** be ~~a crier~~ **one or more criers** for the supreme court, who shall be appointed by the judges of the supreme court **from among the court's security personnel**, and be commissioned by the civil sheriff for the parish of Orleans as a deputy sheriff. ~~The crier shall receive from the state treasury on his own warrant approved by the chief justice the sum of thirty-one hundred dollars, per annum, payable monthly.~~ **Security personnel commissioned pursuant to this Section shall be considered members of a bona fide police agency and may additionally be designated by the court as requiring statewide police power pursuant to R.S. 40:1379.1 in the same manner as provided for in Subsection N of that Section. Upon request, the deputy secretary of public safety services, or his designee, may also facilitate additional security assistance for the court.**

* * *

§76. ~~Facsimile~~ **Filing, case management, and related** technology in state courts; uniform plan

A. The supreme court may provide for the development of a comprehensive and uniform plan for the use of ~~facsimile~~ **filing, case management, and related** technology by and in the courts of this state. In exercising this authority, the court may appoint advisory committees **or working groups** with members representing judges, clerks of court, practicing attorneys in civil and criminal law, law enforcement, researchers and other users of court records, and others whose expertise and experience will assist in the preparation of the plan. The court may provide for the implementation of the plan through recommended legislation.

B. This Section is only applicable to appellate courts.

* * *

§103.1. Expenses of the supreme court

A. Any justice whose primary residence is more than fifty miles from the courthouse may elect all or part of any amount due under R.S. 13:103 to be reimbursed as a vouchered expense or otherwise allowed pursuant to an accountable plan maintained in accordance with Title 26 of the United States Code, provided that the election shall be for an entire year, and the total amount elected or claimed under this Subsection as vouchered expenses actually incurred that would otherwise be unreimbursed, together with any amount otherwise remaining payable under R.S. 13:103 as a taxable allowance for expenses after any partial election or lack of election under this Subsection, shall not exceed the amounts otherwise provided for under R.S. 13:103 for each month.

B. Reimbursement for other official expenses paid from available funds shall be subject to the court's duly adopted rules , including rules concerning any reimbursement, allowances, or payment of expenses concerning mileage, other travel, or related to performing official duties within the respective districts for those justices with a primary residence more than a fifty-mile round trip from the courthouse.

C. Any amounts reimbursed or payable under this Section shall not be considered employee compensation for the purposes of any public retirement system.

D.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any amount paid as per diem for attending to official duties in the parish of the courthouse and related travel shall not exceed the maximum daily expense rate allowed for employees of the United States for travel to that location as established by the United States General Services Administration, or its successor, with the limit for a particular fiscal year measured by the amount applicable ninety days before its commencement.

(2) The court shall adopt rules implementing this Subsection including related and similar limitations concerning to the performance of judicial duties at other locations in the state when necessary. Any amounts due pursuant to this Subsection shall be subject to an annual limit not to exceed a total of ten per month. This Subsection is applicable to any justice who is eligible to make an election under Subsection A of this Section.

* * *

§353. Clerks; sheriff; superintendent of police

* * *

B. The sheriff of the respective parishes in which the courts of appeal ~~for the first, second, third, and fifth circuits~~ are domiciled, or one of his deputies, shall **provide security for and** attend each session of the court ~~to~~ **and when necessary,** execute the orders of the court.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 40:2405(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2405. Peace officer training requirements; reimbursement by peace officer

* * *

B.(1) Additionally, the receipt of supplemental pay from the municipal police officers fund, the deputy sheriffs' fund, the state police fund, or out of the funds appropriated for military police by the Military Department, state of Louisiana, shall be contingent upon the recipient's beginning employment as a peace officer after January 1, 1986, successfully completing a council-approved training program, and passing the council-approved examination within one calendar year from date of initial employment.

(2) Certified security personnel of the Supreme Court of Louisiana or of any court of appeal of the state**, except those already duly commissioned as deputy sheriffs under R.S. 13:74,** shall not be eligible to receive supplemental pay benefits even though the peace officer has successfully completed a council-approved training program. The commission issued to court security personnel shall remain in force and in effect at the pleasure of the employing court.

* * *

Section 3. Code of Civil Procedure Article 157(A) and (B)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Civil Procedure Article 157(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 157. Recusal of supreme court justice

A. A party desiring to recuse a justice of the supreme court shall file a written motion therefor assigning the ground for recusal under Article 151. When a written motion is filed to recuse a justice of the supreme court, the justice may recuse himself or **refer** the motion ~~shall~~ **to** be heard by the other justices of the court.

B. When a justice of the supreme court recuses himself or is recused **by a majority of the other justices**, the court may do one of the following:

* * *

(2) Appoint a **retired justice of the supreme court or a** sitting or retired judge of a district court or a court of appeal having the qualifications of a justice of the supreme court**, other than age, as a justice ad hoc** to act for the recused justice in the hearing and disposition of the cause.

C. A referred recusal motion shall be denied unless a majority of the other justices serving in the case when the motion is filed find sufficient grounds for recusal under Article 151.

Section 4. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 679(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 679. Recusal of an appellate judge and a supreme court justice

* * *

E. When a justice of the supreme court recuses himself or is recused **by a majority of the other justices**, the court may have the cause argued before and disposed of by the other justices or appoint a **retired justice of the supreme court or** sitting or retired judge of a district court or of a court of appeal having the qualifications of a justice of the supreme court**, other than age,** to sit as a member of the court in the hearing and disposition of the cause. **A referred recusal motion shall be denied unless a majority of the other justices serving in the case when the motion is filed find sufficient grounds for recusal under Article 671.**

Section 5. R.S. 13:75 and 353(C) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 6. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the provisions of R.S. 13:103.1 shall not prohibit a justice of the supreme court from having a district office located anywhere within a parish from which the justice has been previously elected notwithstanding that his primary work location is otherwise to be in his district.

Section 7. This Section and Sections 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 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, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval. Section 2 of

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 277

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 192

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN AND SENATORS ALLAIN, BARROW, BASS, CATHEY, CLOUD, EDMONDS, FESI, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, MIGUEZ, PRESSLY, SEABAUGH, AND WHEAT

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article I, Section 4(B)(4) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the right to property; to prohibit expropriation by foreign adversaries; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

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 of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article I, Section 4(B)(4) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§4. Right to Property

Section 4.

* * *

(B)

* * *

(4) Property shall not be taken or damaged by any private entity authorized by law to expropriate, except for a public and necessary purpose and with just compensation paid to the owner; in such proceedings, whether the purpose is public and necessary shall be a judicial question. No private entity that is a foreign adversary or an agent of a foreign adversary, as defined by law, shall take or damage property.

* * *

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 November 3, 2026.Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the 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 prohibit expropriation of property by a foreign adversary or an agent of a foreign adversary?

(Amends Article I, Section 4(B)(4))

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 278

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 21

BY REPRESENTATIVE GLORIOSO

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1735(A), 1759(D), 1782(1), 1788(A), and 1802(1) and to enact R.S. 11:1732(13)(c) and (14)(a)(xiv), relative to the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana; to provide for employer participation; to provide relative to certain exemptions; to provide relative to accumulated contributions; to provide relative to membership in the system; to provide relative to computation of normal retirement allowances; to provide for definitions; to provide relative to benefits of part-time reemployed retirees; to provide relative to service credit; 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. 11:1735(A), 1759(D), 1782(1), 1788(A), and 1802(1) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:1732(13)(c) and (14)(a)(xiv) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1732. Definitions

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

* * *

(13)

* * *

(c) Any elected official not subject to the provisions of R.S. 11:164 shall be presumed to meet the definition of "employee" unless a contrary declaration concerning the member's hours has been confirmed by the governing authority of the member's participating employer.

(14)(a) "Employer" or "participating employer" shall mean:

* * *

(xiv) An employer pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 11:1751.2.

* * *

§1735. Exemption from execution

A. The following items are hereby exempt from any state or municipal tax and from levy and sale, garnishment, attachment, or any other process whatsoever as provided in this Chapter, except as provided in R.S. 11:292: the right of a person to a pension, an annuity, or a retirement allowance, or to the return of contributions, the pension, annuity, or retirement allowance itself, any optional benefit or any other right accrued or accruing to any person, and the moneys in various funds created by this Chapter. These enumerated items shall be unassignable, except as in this Chapter specifically otherwise provided. Benefits paid under this Chapter shall be exempt from state income tax. If the contributions of an employee are paid by a ~~municipality~~ participating employer in order to secure credit for back service, these funds may be assigned to the ~~municipality~~ participating employer until such time as the employee has repaid contributions so paid or the ~~municipality~~ participating employer has released the contributions so paid by written notice to the board of trustees of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System.

* * *

§1759. Return of accumulated contributions

* * *

D. However, refunds of accumulated contributions shall not be required to be made to the member or to his estate until and unless the member has been terminated from a participating ~~municipality~~ employer for thirty days and until all contributions for ~~said~~ the member have been submitted by the member's employer.

* * *

§1782. Computation of normal retirement allowances; return of accumulated contributions

The monthly amount of the retirement allowance for any member of Plan A shall consist of an amount equal to three percent of the member's final compensation multiplied by his years of creditable service, provided however, that:

(1) Any member who has held an elective office in a ~~municipality which is a~~ participating employer shall be paid an additional annuity equal to one-half of one percent for each year of such elective service.

* * *

§1788. Optional membership

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any ~~municipality~~ participating employer which has its employees covered under Social Security and enrolled in Plan B of this system, shall have the option of becoming members of Plan A. The ~~municipality~~ participating employer shall notify the system of its intention to be enrolled in Plan A in writing. The ~~municipality~~ participating employer shall not be entitled to transfer the service and contributions standing to their credit in Plan B to Plan A. After the effective date of such transfer, both the employee and employer shall make the current contributions required by each under Plan A.

* * *

§1802. Computation of normal retirement allowance

The monthly amount of the retirement allowance for any member of Plan B shall consist of an amount equal to two percent of the member's final compensation multiplied by his years of creditable service, provided that:

(1) Any member who has held an elective office in a ~~municipality which is a~~ participating employer shall be paid an additional annuity equal to one-half of one percent for each year of such elective service; and

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 279

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 22

BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:1549, to enact R.S. 11:1550, and to repeal R.S. 11:105(A)(2), 106(A)(2), 107(A)(2), 107.1(A)(2), 242(B)(2), 243(A)(2), and 246(A)(2), relative to the Clerks' of Court Retirement and Relief Fund; to provide relative to cost-of-living adjustments; to provide for calculation of the amount of the adjustment; to provide relative to the authority of the board of trustees to grant an adjustment; to provide for the funding deposit account; to provide for 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. 11:1549 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 11:1550 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1549. Cost-of-living adjustments

A. ~~The~~ Subject to the limitations of this Section, the board of trustees may, upon majority vote of the board, use funds in the funding deposit account to grant or provide a cost-of-living adjustment to ~~retired members who have been retired~~ retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors if benefits have been paid on the retiree's or member's record for at least one full calendar ~~year as provided for in Subsection D, but only in the event that:~~ year. Cost-of-living adjustments shall be paid in such a manner and in such amount as determined by the board of trustees, based on funds available, and the board of trustees may set a maximum amount of such adjustments. Any cost-of-living adjustment provided by the board in accordance with this Section shall

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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begin on a date to be determined by the board following the approval of the most recent actuarial valuation by the board of trustees and adoption by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee.

~~(1) At the end of the system's current fiscal year the funded ratio of the system, as of the end of the previous fiscal year, equals or exceeds the target ratio as of that date for the system, and~~

~~(2) The level of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the current fiscal year is at least three percent higher than the level of the CPI-U for the fiscal year in which the last cost-of-living adjustment was granted.~~

B. As used in this Section, the "funded ratio" as of any fiscal year end shall be defined as the ratio of the actuarial value of assets to the level percentage of payroll entry age normal actuarial accrued liability ~~under the funding method prescribed by the office of the legislative auditor. The actuarial value of assets and actuarial accrued liability for the system shall be those amounts reported to the office of the legislative auditor in the Annual Report for Public Retirement Systems~~.

C. ~~As used in this Section, the "target ratio" as of any fiscal year end shall be defined as the lesser of (1) or (2) below:~~

(1) The board may grant a cost-of-living adjustment in any fiscal year in which the system has a funded ratio of at least ~~One~~ one hundred percent.

(2) ~~The sum of (a), (b), (c), and (d) below:~~

~~(a) The funded ratio as of the 1986 Fiscal Year end.~~

~~(b) The number of fiscal years elapsed since the 1986 Fiscal Year end multiplied by one-thirtieth of the difference between one hundred percent and the funded ratio of the system as of the 1986 Fiscal Year end.~~

~~(c) The amount of each change in funded ratio due to mergers or changes in actuarial methods or assumptions occurring after the 1986 Fiscal Year end.~~

~~(d) For each change in funded ratio due to mergers or changes in actuarial methods or assumptions occurring after the 1986 Fiscal Year end, an amount of opposite arithmetic sign from such change in funded ratio equal in absolute value to the number of fiscal years since the change in funded ratio multiplied by one-thirtieth of the original change in funded ratio due to the merger or change in actuarial methods or assumptions.~~ If the system has a funded ratio of less than one hundred percent, the board may grant a cost-of-living adjustment if:

(a) The system has a funded ratio of at least ninety percent and the board has not granted a cost-of-living adjustment in the most recent fiscal year.

(b) The system has a funded ratio of at least eighty percent and the board has not granted a cost-of-living adjustment in either of the two most recent fiscal years.

(c) The system has a funded ratio of at least seventy percent and the board has not granted a cost-of-living adjustment in any of the three most recent fiscal years.

(3) For purposes of determining the system's funded ratio pursuant to this Subsection, the actuarial value of assets shall be reduced by the actuarial present value of the cost-of-living adjustment.

D. ~~Any cost-of-living adjustment granted by the board of trustees shall not exceed the lesser of:~~

~~(1) An increase in benefits of two and one-half percent per year for each full calendar year of retirement.~~

~~(2) An increase in benefits of forty dollars per month in any one year.~~ If authorized pursuant to Subsection C of this Section, the board of trustees may do one of the following:

(1) Grant a cost-of-living adjustment in benefits to eligible retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors in an amount not to exceed three percent of the current benefit.

(2) Grant a cost-of-living adjustment that is a monthly increase of the benefit of each recipient in a dollar amount that is a multiple or a fraction of the number of years of credited service accrued at retirement of the retiree or at death of the member plus a multiple or a fraction of the number of years since retirement of the retiree or since death of the member to the effective date of the adjustment. The total actuarial present value of a cost-of-living adjustment granted in accordance with this Paragraph shall not exceed the actuarial present value of a cost-of-living adjustment granted pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.E. The board may grant a cost-of-living adjustment of up to two percent of the current benefit to all eligible retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors who are sixty-five years of age or over. The increase granted pursuant to this Subsection may be in addition to any other cost-of-living adjustment granted by the board.

§1550. Employer contributions; funding deposit account

A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board of trustees may:

(1) In any fiscal year during which the net direct employer contribution rate would otherwise be decreased, require an employer contribution rate equal to the previous year's employer contribution rate or a rate lower than the previous year's employer contribution rate if the lower rate is not less than the employer contribution rate calculated in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 11:103.

(2) Require an employer contribution rate of up to three percent more than the rate determined pursuant to R.S. 11:103.

B. The funding deposit account established by Act No. 296 of the 2009 Regular Session of the Legislature is continued. All surplus funds collected by the system in any year in which the board exercises the authority provided in Subsection A of this Section shall be credited to the system's funding deposit account.

C. The funds in the account shall earn interest annually at the board-approved actuarial valuation interest rate, and such interest shall be credited to the account once a year.

D.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board of trustees may in any fiscal year direct that funds from the account be charged for only the following purposes:

(a) To reduce the frozen unfunded accrued liability.

(b) To reduce the present value of future normal costs.

(c) To pay all or a portion of any future net direct employer contributions.

(d) To provide for cost-of-living adjustments, in accordance with applicable law.

(2) In no event shall the funds charged from the account exceed the outstanding account balance.

(3) If the board of trustees elects to charge funds from the funding deposit account pursuant to Subparagraph (1)(c) of this Subsection, the percent reduction in the minimum recommended employer contribution rate otherwise applicable shall be determined by dividing the interest-adjusted value of the charges from the funding deposit account by the projected payroll for the fiscal year for which the contribution rate is to be reduced.

(4) The balance in the funding deposit account shall be excluded from the assets used in the calculation of the employer contribution rate pursuant to R.S. 11:103.

(5) For all purposes other than funding, the funds in the account shall be considered assets of the system.

Section 2. R.S. 11:105(A)(2), 106(A)(2), 107(A)(2), 107.1(A)(2), 242(B)(2), 243(A)(2), and 246(A)(2) 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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 280

HOUSE BILL NO. 23

BY REPRESENTATIVES BACALA, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BROUSSARD, CARVER, FREIBERG, ILLG, TRAVIS JOHNSON, KNOX, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MCMAKIN, NEWELL, PHELPS, SAWYER, STAGNI, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, AND WYBLE

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 11:542.4, relative to the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System; to provide for a cost-of-living adjustment; to provide for eligibility and funding; to provide for payment and timing; 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. 11:542.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§542.4. Cost-of-living adjustment; payable July 1, 2026

A. Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 11:542 to the contrary, the board of trustees of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System may grant a cost-of-living adjustment, funded exclusively with money from the experience account and payable July 1, 2026, to the following retirees and beneficiaries:

(1) Any retiree, other than a disability retiree, who has attained at least age sixty and who has received a benefit for at least one year by June 30, 2026.

(2) Any nonretiree beneficiary, if benefits had been paid to the retiree or the beneficiary, or both combined, for at least one year and if the retiree would have attained age sixty by June 30, 2026.(3) Any disability retiree or a person who receives benefits from the system based on the death of a disability retiree, if benefits have been paid to the retiree or the beneficiary, or both combined for at least one year by June 30, 2026.

B. The adjustment authorized by this Section shall be payable only on the first eighty-one thousand two hundred and one dollars of a retiree or beneficiary's benefit and shall be an amount determined by the system's actuary with the agreement of the legislative auditor's actuary that is supported by the experience account balance after any credits or debits to the account pursuant to R.S. 11:542, up to a maximum payment of two percent of the eligible benefit amount.

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 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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

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ACT No. 281

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HOUSE BILL NO. 28
BY REPRESENTATIVES OWEN, AMEDEE, BROUSSARD, EDMONSTON, MARTINEZ, AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:8.8(E), relative to teacher certification; to provide relative to the appeals process for applicants who have been denied certification; to authorize the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to override a decision of the Teacher Certification Appeals Council under certain circumstances; to authorize the state board to delegate this authority to the board president; to authorize the state board to call a special meeting for these purposes; to require the state board or board president to render a decision within a certain time period; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:8.8(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§8.8. Certification appeals; appeals council; membership; duties; reporting; exceptions

* * *

E.(1) The council shall evaluate the appeals of persons seeking Louisiana certification, including a review of the documents and transcripts of appellants, and shall submit a written report of its findings to the board. A decision of the council shall be a final decision except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection.

(2)(a) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education may override the council's denial of an appellant's appeal if the denial was based on circumstances beyond the appellant's control as determined by the state board; however, the state board shall not override a denial by the council if it determines that the certification of the appellant would conflict with state or federal law.

(b) The state board may call a special meeting to consider overriding a denial of the council. The state board may delegate its authority to override such a denial to the board president. If an appellant submits a request for the board to override a denial, either the state board or the board president shall render a decision within thirty days of receiving the request.

* * *

Section 2. The authority of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to override the Teacher Certification Appeals Council's denial of appeals as provided in R.S. 17:8.8(E) as amended and reenacted by Section 1 of this Act shall have both prospective application and retroactive application to denials issued by the council between January 1, 2025, and the effective date of this Act.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 282

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 33
BY REPRESENTATIVES WILEY, BRASS, AND TAYLOR
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 11:2178.1(B), relative to the Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund; to provide relative to the Back-Deferred Retirement Option Plan; to allow for a five-year participation period in certain circumstances; to provide for limitations and requirements; 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. 11:2178.1(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2178.1. Back-Deferred Retirement Option Plan

* * *

B.(1) At the time of retirement, the member shall select a Back-DROP period to be specified in whole months. The Back-DROP period shall be the most recent calendar period corresponding to the member's accrued creditable service.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, the Back-DROP period shall not exceed the lesser of thirty-six months or the number of months of creditable service accrued after the member first became eligible for regular retirement.

(3) ~~However, members who have~~ A member who has at least thirty ~~or more~~ years of service but less than thirty-five years of service may select a Back-DROP period not to exceed the lesser of forty-eight months or the number of months of creditable service accrued after the member first became eligible for regular retirement. ~~The Back-DROP period shall be the most recent calendar period corresponding to the member's accrued creditable service.~~

(4) A member who has thirty-five or more years of service may select a Back-DROP period not to exceed the lesser of sixty months or the number of months of creditable service accrued after the member first became eligible for regular retirement.

* * *

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 283

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 39
BY REPRESENTATIVES FIRMENT, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BUTLER, EDMONSTON, GALLE, HEBERT, HORTON, MIKE JOHNSON, MACK, ORGERON, OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, VENTRELLA, WILDER, AND ZERINGUE AND SENATORS BASS, CARTER, CLOUD, EDMONDS, FESI, HODGES, MIGUEZ, MORRIS, PRESSLY, AND SEABAUGH
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:2402(3) and to enact R.S. 40:2402(5), relative to the qualification of peace officers in Louisiana; to provide for definitions; to provide that peace officers shall be United States citizens; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:2402(3) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 40:2402(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2402. Definitions

As used in this Chapter:

* * *

(3)(a) (i) "Peace officer" means any employee of the state, a municipality, a sheriff, or other public agency, whose permanent duties actually include the making of arrests, the performing of searches and seizures, or the execution of criminal warrants, and is responsible for the prevention or detection of crime or for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of this state, but not including any elected or appointed head of a law enforcement department.

~~(b)~~ (ii) "Peace officer" shall also include those sheriff's deputies whose duties include the care, custody, and control of inmates.

~~(c)~~ (iii) "Peace officer" shall also include military police officers within the Military Department, state of Louisiana.~~(d)~~ (iv) "Peace officer" shall also include security personnel employed by the Supreme Court of the state of Louisiana.

~~(e)~~ (v) "Peace officer" shall also include security personnel employed by a court of appeal of the state of Louisiana.

~~(f)~~ (vi) "Peace officer" shall also include the director of capitol security and security officers employed by the legislature upon recommendation of the director as provided by R.S. 24:681 et seq.

(b) A peace officer as described in Items (i), (ii), (iv), (v), and (vi) of this Paragraph shall be a United States citizen as defined in this Section.

* * *

(5) "United States citizen" means any individual who is a citizen of the United States either by law, birth, or naturalization.

* * *

Section 2. The provisions of this Act do not apply to a peace officer who is currently employed and who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States as described in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a), provided that the peace officer becomes a United States citizen no later than August 1, 2031.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 284

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 55
BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 44:4.1(B)(39) and to enact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 794.1, relative to juror information; to prohibit the disclosure of juror information; to provide for exceptions; to provide for penalties; to provide for prospective application; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 794.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 794.1. Disclosure of juror information

A.(1) The identity, name, address, telephone number, email address, image, or likeness of a juror shall not be a public record unless released pursuant to Paragraph B of this Article.

(2) The provisions of Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph shall not apply if a list of jurors is submitted to a local government.

B. Upon motion by any person and finding of good cause by the court,

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

information collected by the court or by a prosecuting attorney during the jury selection process about a person who serves as a juror, including the juror's name, home address, or other identifying information, may be disclosed in whole or in part as the court deems necessary.

C. Whoever intentionally violates the provisions of Paragraph A of this Article shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both. The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to a public body.

Section 2. R.S. 44:4.1(B)(39) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§4.1. Exceptions

* * *

B. The legislature further recognizes that there exist exceptions, exemptions, and limitations to the laws pertaining to public records throughout the revised statutes and codes of this state. Therefore, the following exceptions, exemptions, and limitations are hereby continued in effect by incorporation into this Chapter by citation:

* * *

(39) Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 103, 234, 794.1, 877, 894, Title XXXIV of the Code of Criminal Procedure comprised of Articles 971 through 995, Title XXXV of the Code of Criminal Procedure comprised of Articles 1001 through 1004

* * *

Section 3. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 794.1, enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall have prospective application only.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 285

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 58

BY REPRESENTATIVE VILLIO

AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 312(E) through (H) and to enact Code of Criminal Procedure Article 312(I), relative to bail; to prohibit bail after conviction for certain offenders; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Article 312(E) through (H) are hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Criminal Procedure Article 312(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 312. Right to bail before and after conviction

* * *

E. ~~After~~ Except as provided in Paragraph H of this Article, after conviction and before sentence, bail shall be allowed if the maximum sentence which may be imposed is imprisonment for five years or less. ~~Bail~~ Except as provided in Paragraph H of this Article, bail may be allowed pending sentence if the maximum sentence which may be imposed is imprisonment exceeding five years, except when the court has reason to believe, based on competent evidence, that the release of the person convicted will pose a danger to any other person or the community, or that there is a substantial risk that the person convicted might flee.

F. ~~After~~ Except as provided in Paragraph H of this Article, after sentence and until final judgment, bail shall be allowed if a sentence of five years or less is actually imposed. ~~Bail~~ Except as provided in Paragraph H of this Article, bail may be allowed after sentence and until final judgment if the sentence actually imposed exceeds imprisonment for five years, except when the court has reason to believe, based on competent evidence, that the release of the person convicted will pose a danger to any other person or the community, or that there is a substantial risk that the person convicted might flee.G.~~(1) After conviction of a capital offense, a defendant shall not be allowed bail.~~

~~(2)(a)~~ After conviction of any crime punishable by imprisonment for twenty-five years or more that is ~~both~~ either a sex offense ~~and~~ as defined in R.S. 15:541 or a crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B), there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the release of the person convicted will pose a danger to another person or the community and that there is a substantial risk that the person convicted might flee.

~~(b) For purposes of this Paragraph:~~

~~(i) "Crime of violence" means any offense defined or enumerated as a crime of violence in R.S. 14:2(B).~~

~~(ii) "Sex offense" means any offense that requires registration and notification pursuant to R.S. 15:540 et seq.~~

H. After conviction, a defendant shall not be allowed bail for any of the following offenses:

(1) A capital offense.

(2) Any aggravated offense as defined in R.S. 15:541 that is committed against a victim who is a minor.

~~H.~~ I. A person held without bail or unable to post bail may invoke the supervisory jurisdiction of the court of appeal on a claim that the trial court has improperly refused bail or a reduction of bail in a bailable case.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 286

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 106

BY REPRESENTATIVES COX AND CHASSION AND SENATORS ABRAHAM, BARROW, AND HODGES

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:91.16, relative to the administration of melatonin; to prohibit individuals from providing melatonin without parental approval; to provide for penalties; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:91.16 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§91.16. Unlawful distribution of melatonin to children

A. It is unlawful for any person to provide a child with a melatonin sleep aid without prior written consent of the child's parent or legal guardian.

B. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 287

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 112

BY REPRESENTATIVES BAYHAM, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAGLEY, BILLINGS, CHASSION, CREWS, FISHER, GREEN, JACKSON, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MENA, MILLER, MURRAY, NEWELL, SPELL, TAYLOR, AND WALTERS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 9:355.2, relative to the relocation of a child; to specify how miles are measured for relocation of a child; to provide for technical changes; 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. R.S. 9:355.2 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§355.2. Applicability

~~A. This Subpart shall apply to an order regarding custody of or visitation with a child issued:~~

~~(1) On or after August 15, 1997.~~

~~(2) Before August 15, 1997, if the existing custody order does not expressly govern the relocation of the child.~~

~~B.~~ A. This Subpart ~~shall apply~~ applies to a proposed relocation when any of the following exist:

(1) There is intent to establish the principal residence of a child at any location outside ~~the~~ this state.

(2) There is no court order awarding custody and there is an intent to establish the principal residence of a child at any location within ~~the~~ this state that is at a distance of more than seventy-five miles from the domicile of the other parent.

(3) There is a court order awarding custody and there is an intent to establish the principal residence of a child at any location within ~~the~~ this state that is at a distance of more than seventy-five miles from the principal residence of the child at the time that the most recent custody decree was rendered.

(4) If either no principal residence of a child has been designated by the court or the parties have equal physical custody, and there is an intent to establish the principal residence of a child at any location within ~~the~~ this state that is at a distance of more than seventy-five miles from the domicile of a person entitled to object to relocation.

~~C.~~ B. To the extent that this Subpart conflicts with an existing custody order, this Subpart shall not apply to the terms of that order that govern relocation.

~~D.~~ C. This Subpart shall not apply when either of the following circumstances exist:

(1) The persons required to give notice of and the persons entitled to object to a proposed relocation have entered into an express written agreement for the relocation of the principal residence of the child.

(2) There is in effect an order issued pursuant to ~~Domestic Abuse Assistance, R.S. 46:2131, et seq., Protection from Dating Violence, R.S. 46:2151, Part II of Chapter 28 of Title 46 or the Post-Separation Family Violence Relief Act or Injunctions and Incidental Orders, Parts IV and V of Chapter 1 of Code Title V of Code Book I of Title 9, except R.S. 9:372.1, all of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Domestic Abuse Assistance, Chapter 8 of Title XV of the Children's Code, or any other restraining order, preliminary injunction, permanent injunction, or any protective order prohibiting a person from harming or going near or in the proximity of the other person.~~ any of the following:

(a) Part II of Chapter 28 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

(b) Chapter 28-A of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

(c) Parts IV and V of Subpart H of Part III of Code Title V of Book I of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, except R.S. 9:372.1.

(d) Chapter 8 of Title XV of the Children's Code.(e) Any other protective order prohibiting a person from harming or going near or in the proximity of

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

the other person.

D. For purposes of this Subpart, miles shall be measured by the shortest distance that is publicly accessible by motor vehicle or by a public ferry, where applicable, from the principal residence of a child to the new intended principal residence.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

Section 3. This Act shall not apply to any litigation pending on the effective date of this Act regarding the relocation of the principal residence of a child, but shall apply to any subsequent relocation after final disposition of that litigation.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 288

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 136

BY REPRESENTATIVE ILLG

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 33:2554(C)(6), relative to the city of Harahan; to provide relative to the classified police service; to provide relative to the certification and appointment of eligible persons; 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. 33:2554(C)(6) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2554. Certification and appointment

* * *

C.

* * *

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in the city of Harahan, a vacant position in the police department shall be filled in the following manner:

(a) If a vacancy cannot be filled by reinstatement or by reemployment as provided in Subsections A and B of this Section, the board shall next certify the names of the persons on the promotional list, in the order in which they appear thereon, for the class in which the vacancy is to be filled.

(b) The appointing authority shall select and appoint to any vacancy to be filled a person certified to him whose name appears on the promotional list for the class for which he was tested as a person who is among the three highest in departmental seniority.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 289

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 155

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:337(A)(1)(b), relative to the unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft system; to provide relative to locations where the use of an unmanned aircraft system is prohibited; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:337(A)(1)(b) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§337. Unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft system

A.(1) Unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft system is any of the following:

* * *

(b) The intentional use of an unmanned aircraft system, without the express written consent of the person in charge of the location, over ~~the~~ any of the following locations:

(i) The grounds of the state capitol, which shall include all of the following:

(aa) The state capitol building, including designated parking areas, the front steps, and patios, that is bounded on the north by Capitol Access Road, on the east by Veteran's Memorial Park and North Fifth Street, on the south by Capitol Gardens, and on the west by North Third Street.(bb) The Capitol Annex Building, including designated parking areas, that is bounded on the north by the steps to the Claiborne Building, on the east by North Third Street, on the south by State Capitol Drive, and on the west by the Mississippi River.

(cc) The Capitol Gardens, including designated parking areas, that are bounded on the north by the state capitol building, the east by North Fifth Street, the south by Spanish Town Road, and the west by North Third Street.

(dd) The Louisiana Pentagon Barracks, including designated parking areas, that are bounded on the north by State Capitol Drive, on the east by North Third Street, on the south by A.Z. Young Park, and on the west by the Mississippi River.

(ee) Veteran's Memorial Park, including the grounds of the Old Arsenal Museum, that is bounded on the north by Capitol Lake Drive, on the east by Capitol Access Road, on the south by State Capitol Drive, and on the west by the grounds of the state capitol building.

(ff) The waters and banks or shorelines of Capitol Lake.

(gg) A.Z. Young Park that is bounded on the north by the Louisiana Pentagon Barracks, the east by North Third Street, on the south by Lafayette Street, and on the west by the Mississippi River.

(hh) The Claiborne Building and associated grounds, land, and area immediately surrounding it that are considered part of the property and closely associated with its use, including designated parking areas, that are bounded on the north by the intersection of River Road and North Third Street southbound, the east by North Third Street, on the south by the Capitol Annex Building, and on the west by River Road.

(ii) The parking garage and associated grounds, land, and area immediately surrounding it that are considered part of the property and closely associated with its use that are bounded on the north by State Capitol Drive, on the east by North Sixth Street, on the south by Lakeland Drive, and on the west by North Fifth Street.

(ii) The grounds of the governor's mansion~~.~~,

(iii) The grounds of any state or local jail, prison, or other correctional facility that incarcerates or detains juveniles or adults accused of, convicted of, sentenced for, or adjudicated delinquent for violations of criminal law ~~without the express written consent of the person in charge of that state building, state or local jail, prison, or other correctional facility~~.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 290

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 168

BY REPRESENTATIVES FREIBERG, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOYD, BRASS, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARPENTER, CARRIER, CARVER, CHENEVERT, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, FISHER, FONTENOT, FREEMAN, GREEN, JORDAN, KNOX, LAFLEUR, MANDIE LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARTINEZ, MELERINE, MILLER, MOORE, MURRAY, PHELPS, SAWYER, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, VILLIO, AND WYBLE

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 15:574.23 and to repeal R.S. 15:828.4, relative to parole; to establish the transitional reentry program for female parolees; to provide for administration of the program; to provide for eligibility criteria; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:574.23 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§574.23. Transitional reentry program for female parolees; establishment

A. For the purposes of this Section, "transitional reentry program" means a structured reentry preparatory program administered by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections for female parolees that is designed to facilitate their safe and successful reintegration into the community.

B. A female offender shall be eligible for consideration of placement in the transitional reentry program if she meets all of the following conditions:

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 15:574.4, she is currently eligible for parole consideration and has met all of the following criteria:

(a) She has served at least five years of imprisonment in actual custody.

(b) The instant conviction or any prior conviction is not a sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541.(c) She is within six months of her projected release date based on diminution of sentence pursuant to R.S. 15:571.3.

(d) She has not been denied parole in the previous twelve months.

(e) She has not committed any major disciplinary offenses in the twelve months prior to her entering the program. A major disciplinary offense is an offense identified as a Schedule B offense by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections in the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures for Adult Offenders.

(2) She has been granted parole pursuant to this Part.

(3) She voluntarily agrees to participate in and adhere to any additional screening, assessment, or eligibility requirements established by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

Section 2. R.S. 15:828.4 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 291

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 187

BY REPRESENTATIVE MUSCARELLO

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:981(A) and (D) and to enact R.S. 13:961(J), relative to court reporter pools; to provide concerning stenographer-reporters of the Board of Tax Appeals; to revise provisions establishing a court reporter pool employed by the Louisiana Supreme Court; and to

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

revise provisions relative to rules, procedures, and guidelines with respect to the court reporter pool.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:981(A) and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:961(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§961. Court reporters; generally

* * *

J. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a stenographer-reporter of the Board of Tax Appeals as authorized pursuant to R.S. 47:1404 and 1416 shall prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance with the board's rules. The stenographer-reporter shall be considered to have the authority of an official reporter for the board in the same manner as if appointed by the district court for the parish of the board's domicile and shall be considered a certified digital reporter during his or her continued employment in that capacity.

* * *

§981. Court reporter pools

A. There is hereby established a court reporter pool of thirty emergency court reporters employed or approved by the supreme court from which said court reporters may be assigned from time to time to any of the various district courts in the state as the need arises in order that transcripts for criminal appeals and other necessary purposes may be timely lodged in the appellate courts.

* * *

D. ~~In addition to all fees for court reporters provided for in R.S. 13:961, each court reporter in the pool shall be paid an annual salary by the state in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars. The supreme court shall provide for the salaries, related costs, and travel expenses of the court reporters in its annual budget for operations of the court. Reimbursement for travel expenses of pool court reporters shall not exceed the amount allowed other state employees.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an emergency court reporter appointed pursuant to the authority of this Section shall prepare, certify, and charge for a transcript in accordance with rules duly adopted by the Supreme Court for that purpose. An emergency court reporter under this Section shall be considered to have the authority of an official reporter for a district court in the same manner as if appointed by it.

* * *

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 292

HOUSE BILL NO. 203

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1104(B)(3), relative to the Uterine Fibroids Commission; to provide for the membership of the commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:1104(B)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1104. Uterine Fibroids Commission

* * *

B. The commission shall be comprised of the following members:

* * *

(3) One member from the ~~Christus Health System~~ Xavier Ochsner College of Medicine.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 293

HOUSE BILL NO. 215

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROBBY CARTER, KNOX, AND TAYLOR

AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Article 3421(1), relative to small successions; to increase the threshold for property values relative to small successions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Article 3421(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Art. 3421. Small successions defined

A small succession, within the meaning of this Title, is any of the following:

(1) The succession of a person who died domiciled in Louisiana and who died leaving property with a gross value of ~~one hundred twenty-five~~ two hundred thousand dollars or less valued as of the date of death.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 294

HOUSE BILL NO. 228

BY REPRESENTATIVE STAGNI

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 49:191(4) and to repeal R.S. 49:191(1)(d), relative to the Department of State Civil Service, including provisions to provide for the re-creation of the Department of State Civil Service 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 Civil Service 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 Civil Service 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 Civil Service 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 Civil Service and all statutory entities made a part of the department by law.

* * *

Section 5. R.S. 49:191(1)(d) 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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 295

HOUSE BILL NO. 263

BY REPRESENTATIVE FARNUM

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:589(E), relative to the magistrate judge of the Fourteenth Judicial District Court; to authorize the magistrate judge to preside over specialty court programs; to define relative to specialty court; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:589(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§589. Fourteenth Judicial District Court; magistrate judge

* * *

E.(1) Notwithstanding this Section or any other provision of law to the contrary, subject to the approval of the en banc judges of the Fourteenth Judicial District Court, the magistrate judge may preside over a specialty court program and fully adjudicate the related felony charges for those who have pled into or otherwise agreed to participate in a specialty court program.

(2) For purposes of this Subsection, "specialty court" means any program designated as a specialty court by the Louisiana Supreme Court including drug court programs, Veterans Court programs, driving while intoxicated court, mental health court, reentry court, domestic abuse court, behavioral health court, or any juvenile specialty court handling matters related to allegations of domestic abuse.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 296

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 287
BY REPRESENTATIVES BEAULLIEU AND OWEN
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1838(introductory paragraph), relative to ad valorem property tax assessments by the Louisiana Tax Commission; to extend authority for the imposition of certain assessment fees; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:1838(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1838. Fees

The tax commission is hereby authorized on an interim basis for the period beginning on ~~July 1, 2021~~ July 1, 2026, and ending on ~~June 30, 2026~~ June 30, 2030, to levy and collect the following fees in connection with services performed by the commission:

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026, if vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval by the legislature or July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 297

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 296
BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOX
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(g), R.S. 15:827(A)(introductory paragraph) and (9)(a), 828(D), and 1113(A), R.S. 36:409(A), and R.S. 47:287.750(A) and (B)(introductory paragraph), (2), and (4) and to repeal R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(a) and Part XVIII of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 15:1199.1 through 1199.16, relative to inmate workforce development; to repeal the Reentry Advisory Council and Offender Rehabilitation Workforce Development Act and all related cross-references, requirements, or criteria associated with participation in the workforce development program or the advisory council; to provide for technical corrections; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(g) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5401. District courts; reentry courts; subject matter

* * *

B. Participation in the workforce development sentencing program as authorized by the provisions of this Section shall be subject to the following provisions:

(1) The court may recommend that a defendant participate in the workforce development sentencing program if all of the following criteria are satisfied:

* * *

(g) Other criminal proceedings alleging commission of a crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B)~~, except those listed in,~~ shall not be pending against the defendant.

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 15:827(A)(introductory paragraph) and (9)(a), 828(D), and 1113(A) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§827. Duties of Department of Public Safety and Corrections

A. In addition to other duties imposed upon the department, it shall ~~be the duty of the department to~~ do all of the following:

* * *

(9)(a) Establish a system to collect information and data on inmates participating in any program that offers the inmate compensation for services or work performed, on-the-job training, or industry certification, including but not limited to information and data for all of the following:

(i) ~~inmates~~ Inmates assigned to Prison Enterprises' industrial, agricultural, service, or other programs~~;~~.

(ii) ~~inmates~~ Inmates who are Certified Academic Tutors and Certified Vocational Tutors~~;~~.

(iii) ~~inmates~~ Inmates assigned to a ~~certified Private Sector/~~Prison Industry Enhancement ~~program;~~ Certification Program.

(iv) ~~inmates~~ Inmates participating in a work release program established and administered by a sheriff~~;~~.

(v) ~~inmates~~ Inmates participating in the work release program established and administered by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections~~; and inmates participating in a program established and administered pursuant to the Reentry Advisory Council and Offender Rehabilitation Workforce Development Act~~.

* * *

§828. Classification and treatment programs; qualified sex offender programs; reports; earned credits

* * *

D. Offenders who are otherwise eligible ~~under~~ pursuant to this Section and who are participating in ~~the~~ a workforce development work release program ~~pursuant to R.S. 15:1199.9,~~ shall be eligible to earn an additional one hundred eighty days of credit toward the reduction of the projected good time parole supervision date.

* * *

§1113. Facilities providing housing or temporary residence to individuals participating in work release or workforce development work release programs administered by the department

A. No facility that provides housing or temporary residence for individuals who are participating in a work release ~~programs~~ program as authorized by the provisions of R.S. 15:1111 ~~or 1199.9~~ shall be located within one thousand feet of any school or child day care center property.

* * *

Section 3. R.S. 36:409(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§409. Transfer of agencies to Department of Public Safety and Corrections

A. The ~~following agencies are~~ task force to develop and implement an electronic media system for lien recordation and title information (R.S. 32:707.2) is placed within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections and shall exercise and perform ~~their~~ its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as provided by law~~:~~.

~~(1) Reentry Advisory Council (R.S. 15:1199.4).~~

~~(2) Task force to develop and implement an electronic media system for lien recordation and motor vehicle title information (R.S. 32:707.2).~~

* * *

Section 4. R.S. 47:287.750(A) and (B)(introductory paragraph), (2), and (4) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§287.750. Louisiana work opportunity tax credit

A. There is hereby authorized a nonrefundable credit for businesses that hire participants in the work release programs provided ~~for~~ in R.S. 15:711~~,~~ and 1111~~, 1199.9, and 1199.10~~.

B. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms ~~shall~~ have the following meanings:

* * *

(2) "Eligible business" ~~shall mean~~ means a business that is subject to Louisiana income tax and participates in any of the work release programs provided ~~for~~ in R.S. 15:711~~,~~ or 1111~~, 1199.9, or 1199.10~~.

* * *

(4) "Eligible re-entrant" ~~shall mean~~ means an inmate or former inmate who is eligible to participate and is actively participating in a work release program provided ~~for~~ in R.S. 15:711~~,~~ or 1111~~, 1199.9, or 1199.10. An eligible re-entrant shall meet all of the criteria provided for in R.S. 15:1199.7~~.

* * *

Section 5. R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(a) and Part XVIII of Title 15 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 15:1199.1 through 1199.16, are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 298

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 299
BY REPRESENTATIVE MELERINE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact Code of Civil Procedure Article 253(B)(3)(introductory paragraph) and to enact Code of Civil Procedure Article 253(B)(3)(e), relative to documents filed in court; to provide for the filing of a jury bond in person, by United States mail, or by commercial courier; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Code of Civil Procedure Article 253(B)(3)(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and reenacted and Code of Civil Procedure Article 253(B)(3)(e) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

Art. 253. Pleadings, documents, and exhibits to be filed with clerk

* * *

B.

* * *

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, the following original documents may be filed in paper form, either in person, by ~~U.S. mail~~ United States Postal Service, or by commercial courier:

* * *

(e) A jury bond.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

ACT No. 299

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 301
BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE
AN ACT

To enact Chapter 11-B of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 23:1821 through 1823, relative to voluntary portable benefits for independent contractors; to provide a short title; to provide definitions; to provide for contributions to a portable benefit account; to allow certain persons or entities to contribute funds to a portable benefit account; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 11-B of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 23:1821 through 1823, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 11-B. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR VOLUNTARY PORTABLE BENEFITS

§1821. Short title

This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Independent Contractor Voluntary Portable Benefits Act".

§1822. Definitions

For the purpose of this Chapter, the following terms have the meanings ascribed to them:

(1) "Bank" means a banking corporation or trust company entitled to operate within this state as provided in Title 6 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

(2) "Hiring party" means a person or entity that hires or enters into a contract for the performance of work with an independent contractor who meets the rebuttable presumption standard established in R.S. 23:1711.1.(3) "Portable benefit account" means an account owned by an independent contractor that is assigned to an individual beneficiary and is not associated with a specific employer or hiring party. The account shall be administered by a portable benefit account provider, as defined in this Section, for the purpose of funding the purchase of one or more benefit plans, including but not limited to plans that provide any of the following:

(a) Health insurance.

(b) Income replacement insurance.

(c) Disability pay insurance.

(d) Life insurance.

(e) Retirement benefits.

(4) "Portable benefit account provider" means the administrator of a portable benefit account and includes any of the following:

(a) A bank.

(b) An investment management firm.

(c) A technology provider or program manager that offers services through a bank or investment management firm.

§1823. Contributions of funds to portable benefit accounts

A. Any person or entity, including an internet- or application-based entity, may contribute funds to one or more portable benefit accounts.

B. A contribution to a portable benefit account may be made using the funds of the hiring party or a percentage of funds withheld from compensation owed to an independent contractor if all of the following occur:

(1) The withholding of compensation is expressly agreed to in writing by both parties.

(2) The written agreement is clear, unambiguous, and prominently displayed either in a services agreement or other contract between the independent contractor and the hiring party or in a separate notice.

(3) The withholding of compensation is voluntary and requires an independent contractor to opt in.

(4) The independent contractor is allowed to opt out of the agreement at any time.

C. Contributions to a portable benefit account are voluntary and shall not be used as criterion for determining an individual's employment classification. Such contributions are not evidence of employer liability, and a court shall not construe them as an element of an employment relationship for any purpose pursuant to the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Law or Louisiana Employment Security Law.

D. The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Law, R.S. 23:1020 et seq.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 300

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 322
BY REPRESENTATIVE MELERINE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:574.12.1(F) and to enact R.S. 15:574.12.1(G), relative to records of testimony provided at certain hearings of the Board of Pardons and committee on parole; to prohibit the assessment of certain fees and costs; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:574.12.1(F) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 15:574.12.1(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§574.12.1. Testimony provided in executive session before the Board of Pardons and committee on parole; confidentiality

* * *

F. No fees or costs provided by law shall be assessed against a victim, spouse or next of kin of a deceased victim, or legal guardian of a victim who requests a copy of the testimony pursuant to this Section.

G. Nothing in this Section shall prevent the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or law enforcement from sharing information as authorized or required by state or federal law.

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 301

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 462
BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 48:773, relative to the Capital Area Road and Bridge District; to provide relative to the board of commissioners of the district; to provide relative to the membership of the board; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 48:773 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§773. Appointment and term of board of commissioners

The management and control of the district shall be vested in a board of commissioners composed ~~of seven members~~ as follows:

(1) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development or his designee.

(2) The president of each parish comprising the district or the president's designee.

(3) The governor shall appoint one resident of the district as a member who shall serve at the pleasure of governor.

(4) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint at least one and not more than two representatives whose representative district includes a portion of at least one of the parishes comprising the district. The speaker shall appoint, as practicable, one representative from each of the parishes comprising the district.

(5) The president of the Senate shall appoint at least one and not more than two senators whose senate district includes a portion of at least one of the parishes comprising the district. The president shall appoint, as practicable, one senator from each of the parishes comprising the district.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 302

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 486
BY REPRESENTATIVES SPELL, KNOX, AND MCMAKIN
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 44:4.1(B)(24) and to enact R.S. 37:2354(H) and Part II of Chapter 28 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 37:2371, relative to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact; to provide for fees for psychologists utilizing the compact; to provide for the purpose of the compact; to provide for definitions; to provide for home state licensure; to provide for the compact privilege to practice telepsychology; to provide for temporary compact authority to practice in person; to provide for disciplinary actions; to provide for communication of information between compact states; to establish the compact commission; to provide for the duties of the compact commission; to provide for the promulgation of rules; to provide for oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement of certain provisions; to provide for construction and severability; to provide for an exception from Public Records Law; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:2354(H) and Part II of Chapter 28 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 37:2371, are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2354. Fees

* * *

H. The board may, upon initial request and renewal, collect a fee not to exceed fifty dollars from any individual holding compact authorization to practice under the psychology interjurisdictional compact whose home state is Louisiana, in accordance with R.S. 37:2371. The board shall adopt rules

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Subsection.

* * *

PART II. PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT (PSYPACT)

§2371. Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

A. States license psychologists in order to protect the public through verification of education, training, and experience and ensure accountability for professional practice.

B. This compact is intended to accomplish all of the following:

(1) To regulate the day-to-day practice of telepsychology, the provision of psychological services using telecommunication technologies, by psychologists across state boundaries in the performance of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority.

(2) To regulate the temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology by psychologists across state boundaries for thirty days within a calendar year in the performance of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority.

(3) To authorize state psychology regulatory authorities to afford legal recognition, in a manner consistent with the terms of the compact, to psychologists licensed in another state.

C. This compact recognizes that states have a vested interest in protecting the public's health and safety through their licensing and regulation of psychologists and that such state regulation will best protect public health and safety.

D. This compact does not apply when a psychologist is licensed in both the home and receiving states.

E. This compact does not apply to permanent in-person, face-to-face practice; the compact allows for authorization of temporary psychological practice.

This compact is designed to achieve all of the following purposes and objectives:

(1) Increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for telepsychological practice across state lines as well as temporary in-person, face-to-face services into a state where the psychologist is not licensed to practice psychology.

(2) Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety, especially client and patient safety.

(3) Encourage the cooperation of compact states in the areas of psychology licensure and regulation.

(4) Facilitate the exchange of information between compact states regarding psychologist licensure, adverse actions, and disciplinary history.

(5) Promote compliance with the laws governing psychological practice in each compact state.

(6) Invest all compact states with the authority to hold licensed psychologists accountable through the mutual recognition of compact state licenses.

ARTICLE II. Definitions

As used in this Part, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Adverse action" means any action taken by a state psychology regulatory authority that finds a violation of a statute or regulation that is identified by the state psychology regulatory authority as discipline and is a matter of public record.

(2) "Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards" or "ASPPB" means the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities responsible for the licensure and registration of psychologists throughout the United States and Canada.

(3) "Authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology" means a licensed psychologist's authority to practice telepsychology, within the limits authorized under this compact, in another compact state.

(4) "Bylaws" means those bylaws established by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission pursuant to Article X of this compact for its governance or for directing and controlling its actions and conduct.

(5) "Client or patient" means the recipient of psychological services, whether psychological services are delivered in the context of healthcare, corporate, supervision, or consulting services.

(6) "Commissioner" means the voting representative appointed by each state psychology regulatory authority pursuant to Article X of this compact.

(7) "Compact state" means a state, the District of Columbia, or United States territory that has enacted this compact legislation and which has not withdrawn pursuant to Article XIII, Subsection C of this compact or been terminated pursuant to Article XII, Subsection B of this compact.

(8) "Coordinated licensure information system" also referred to as "coordinated database" means an integrated process for collecting, storing, and sharing information on psychologists' licensure and enforcement activities related to psychology licensure laws, which is administered by the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities.

(9) "Confidentiality" means the principle that data or information is not made available or disclosed to unauthorized persons or processes.

(10) "Day" means any part of a day in which psychological work is performed.

(11) "Distant state" means the compact state where a psychologist is physically present, not through the use of telecommunications technologies, to provide temporary in-person, face-to-face psychological services.

(12) "E.Passport" means a certificate issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that promotes standardization in the criteria of interjurisdictional telepsychology practice and facilitates the process for licensed psychologists to provide telepsychological services across state lines.

(13) "Executive board" means a group of directors elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them by, the commission.

(14) "Home state" means a compact state where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state and is practicing under the authorization to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology, the home state is the compact state where the psychologist is physically present when the telepsychological services are delivered. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state and is practicing under the temporary authorization to practice, the home state is any compact state where the psychologist is licensed.

(15) "Identity history summary" means a summary of information retained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other designee with similar authority, in connection with arrests and, in some instances, federal employment, naturalization, or military service.

(16) "In-person, face-to-face" means interactions in which the psychologist and the client or patient are in the same physical space and which do not include interactions that may occur through the use of telecommunication technologies.

(17) "Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate" or "IPC" means a certificate issued by the ASPPB that grants temporary authority to practice based on notification to the state psychology regulatory authority of intention to practice temporarily, and verification of one's qualifications for such practice.

(18) "License" means authorization by a state psychology regulatory authority to engage in the independent practice of psychology, which would be unlawful without the authorization.

(19) "Non-compact state" means any state which is not at the time a compact state.

(20) "Psychologist" means an individual licensed for the independent practice of psychology.

(21) "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission" also referred to as "commission" means the national administration of which all compact states are members.

(22) "Receiving state" means a compact state where the client or patient is physically located when the telepsychological services are delivered.

(23) "Rule" means a written statement by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission promulgated pursuant to Article XI of this compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the commission and has the force and effect of statutory law in a compact state, and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.

(24) "Significant investigatory information" means either of the following:

(a) Investigative information that a state psychology regulatory authority, after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity to respond if required by state law, has reason to believe, if proven true, would indicate a violation of state statute or ethics code that would be considered more substantial than a minor infraction.

(b) Investigative information that indicates that the psychologist represents an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless of whether the psychologist has been notified and had an opportunity to respond.

(25) "State" means a state, commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, including the District of Columbia.

(26) "State psychology regulatory authority" means the board, office, or other agency with the legislative mandate to license and regulate the practice of psychology.

(27) "Telepsychology" means the provision of psychological services using telecommunication technologies.

(28) "Temporary authorization to practice" means a licensed psychologist's authority to conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, within the limits authorized under this compact, in another compact state.

(29) "Temporary in-person, face-to-face practice" means a situation in which a psychologist is physically present, not through the use of telecommunications technologies, in the distant state to provide for the practice of psychology for thirty days within a calendar year and based on notification to the distant state.

ARTICLE III. HOME STATE LICENSURE

A. The home state shall be a compact state where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology.

B. A psychologist may hold one or more compact state licenses at a time. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state, the home state is the compact state where the psychologist is physically present when the services are delivered as authorized by the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms of this compact.

C. Any compact state may require a psychologist not previously licensed in a compact state to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in the compact state under circumstances not authorized by the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms of this compact.

D. Any compact state may require a psychologist to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in a compact state under circumstances not authorized by temporary authorization to practice under the terms of this compact.

E. A home state's license authorizes a psychologist to practice in a receiving state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology only

if the compact state:

(1) Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active E.Passport.

(2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about licensed individuals.

(3) Notifies the commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed individual.

(4) Requires an identity history summary of all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other designee with similar authority, no later than ten years after activation of the compact.

(5) Complies with the bylaws and rules of the commission.

F. A home state's license grants temporary authorization to practice to a psychologist in a distant state only if the compact state satisfies all of the following:

(1) Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active IPC.

(2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about licensed individuals.

(3) Notifies the commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed individual.

(4) Requires an identity history summary of all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other designee with similar authority, no later than ten years after activation of the compact.

(5) Complies with the bylaws and rules of the commission.

ARTICLE IV. COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE TELEPSYCHOLOGY

A. Compact states shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a compact state in conformance with Article III of this compact, to practice telepsychology in other compact states (distant states) in which the psychologist is not licensed, under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology as provided in this compact.

B. To exercise the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms and provisions of this compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a compact state shall satisfy all of the following:

(1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education that was, at the time the degree was awarded, either of the following:

(a) Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education to grant graduate degrees or authorized by provincial statute or royal charter to grant doctoral degrees.

(b) A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to an institution described in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.

(2) Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, is clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program shall specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists.

(b) The psychology program is a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the institution.

(c) The program shall establish clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas, whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines.

(d) The program shall consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

(e) The program shall employ an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out its responsibilities.

(f) The designated director of the program shall be a psychologist and a member of the core faculty.

(g) The program shall have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a degree.

(h) The program shall include supervised practicum, internship, or field training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

(i) The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years of full- time graduate study for a doctoral degree and a minimum of one academic year of full-time graduate study for a master's degree.

(j) The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the rules of the commission.

(3) Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a home state that is a compact state.

(4) Have no history of adverse action that violates the rules of the commission.

(5) Have no criminal record history reported on an identity history summary that violates the rules of the commission.

(6) Possess a current, active E.Passport.

(7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice, conformity with standards of practice, competence in telepsychology technology; criminal background; and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements in the home and receiving states, and provide a release of information to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified by the commission.

(8) Meet other criteria as defined by the rules of the commission.

C. The home state maintains authority over the license of any psychologist practicing in a receiving state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology.

D. A psychologist practicing in a receiving state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology will be subject to the receiving state's scope of practice. A receiving state may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology in the receiving state and may take any other necessary actions under the receiving state's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the receiving state's citizens. If a receiving state takes action, the state shall promptly notify the home state and the commission.

E. If a psychologist's license in any home state, another compact state, or any authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology in any receiving state, is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the E.Passport shall be revoked, and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice telepsychology in a compact state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology.

ARTICLE V. COMPACT TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE

A. Compact states shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a compact state in conformance with Article III, to practice temporarily in other compact states (distant states) in which the psychologist is not licensed, as provided in this compact.

B. To exercise the temporary authorization to practice under the terms and provisions of this compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a compact state shall satisfy all of the following:

(1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education that was, at the time the degree was awarded, either of the following:

(a) Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education to grant graduate degrees or authorized by provincial statute or royal charter to grant doctoral degrees.

(b) A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to an institution described in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.

(2) Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, is clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program shall specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists.

(b) The psychology program is a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the institution.

(c) The program shall establish clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines.

(d) The program shall consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

(e) The program shall employ an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out its responsibilities.

(f) The designated director of the program shall be a psychologist and a member of the core faculty.

(g) The program shall have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a degree.

(h) The program shall include supervised practicum, internship, or field training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

(i) The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years of full- time graduate study for a doctoral degree and a minimum of one academic year of full-time graduate study for a master's degree.

(j) The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the rules of the commission.

(3) Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a home state that is a compact state.

(4) Have no history of adverse action that violates the rules of the commission.

(5) Have no criminal record history that violates the rules of the commission.

(6) Possess a current, active IPC.

(7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice and work experience and provide a release of information to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified by the commission.

(8) Meet other criteria as defined by the rules of the commission.

C. A psychologist practicing in a distant state under the temporary authorization to practice shall practice within the scope of practice authorized by the distant state.

D. A psychologist practicing in a distant state under the temporary authorization to practice will be subject to the distant state's authority and law. A distant state may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's temporary authorization to practice in the distant state and may take any other necessary actions under the distant state's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the distant state's citizens. If a distant state takes action, the state shall promptly notify the home state and the commission.

E. If a psychologist's license in any home state, another compact state, or any temporary authorization to practice in any distant state, is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the IPC shall be revoked and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice in a compact state under the temporary authorization to practice.

ARTICLE VI. CONDITIONS OF TELEPSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE IN A RECEIVING STATE

A psychologist may practice in a receiving state under the authority to

practice interjurisdictional telepsychology only in the performance of the scope of practice for psychology as assigned by an appropriate state psychology regulatory authority, as defined in the rules of the commission, and under the following circumstances:

(1) The psychologist initiates contact with a patient or client in a home state via telecommunications technologies with a client or patient in a receiving state.

(2) Other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by rules promulgated by the commission.

ARTICLE VII. ADVERSE ACTIONS

A. A home state shall have the power to impose adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the home state. A distant state shall have the power to take adverse action on a psychologist's temporary authorization to practice within that distant state.

B. A receiving state may take adverse action on a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology within that receiving state. A home state may take adverse action against a psychologist based on an adverse action taken by a distant state regarding temporary in-person, face-to-face practice.

C. If a home state takes adverse action against a psychologist's license, that psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology is terminated and the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's temporary authorization to practice is terminated and the IPC is revoked.

(1) All home state disciplinary orders that impose adverse action shall be reported to the commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the commission. A compact state shall report adverse actions in accordance with the rules of the commission.

(2) In the event discipline is reported on a psychologist, the psychologist will not be eligible for telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in accordance with the rules of the commission.

(3) Other actions may be imposed as determined by the rules promulgated by the commission.

D. A home state's psychology regulatory authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a licensee which occurred in a receiving state as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the home state. In such cases, the home state's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's license.

E. A distant state's psychology regulatory authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a psychologist practicing under temporary authorization practice which occurred in that distant state as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the home state. In such cases, the distant state's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's temporary authorization to practice.

F. Nothing in this compact shall override a compact state's decision that a psychologist's participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation shall remain non-public if required by the compact state's law. Compact states shall require psychologists who enter any alternative programs to not provide telepsychology services under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or provide temporary psychological services under the temporary authorization to practice in any other compact state during the term of the alternative program.

G. No other judicial or administrative remedies shall be available to a psychologist in the event a compact state imposes an adverse action pursuant to Subsection C of this Article.

ARTICLE VIII. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES INVESTED IN A COMPACT STATE'S PSYCHOLOGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

In addition to any other powers granted under state law, a compact state's psychology regulatory authority shall have the authority under this compact to do all of the following:

(1) Issue subpoenas, for both hearings and investigations, which require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a compact state's psychology regulatory authority for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence from another compact state shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction according to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The issuing state psychology regulatory authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses or evidence are located.

(2) Issue cease and desist or injunctive relief orders to revoke a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or temporary authorization to practice.

(3) During the course of any investigation, a psychologist may not change his home state licensure. A home state psychology regulatory authority is authorized to complete any pending investigations of a psychologist and to take any actions appropriate under its law. The home state psychology regulatory authority shall promptly report the conclusions of such investigations to the commission. Once an investigation has been completed, and pending the outcome of said investigation, the psychologist may change his home state licensure. The commission shall promptly notify the new home state of any such decisions as provided in the rules of the commission. All information provided to the commission or distributed by compact states pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential and used for investigatory or disciplinary matters. The commission may create additional rules for mandated or discretionary sharing of information by compact states.

ARTICLE IX. COORDINATED LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM

A. The commission shall provide for the development and maintenance of a coordinated licensure information system (coordinated database) and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on all psychologists and individuals to whom this compact is applicable in all compact states as defined by the rules of the commission.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a compact state shall submit a uniform data set to the coordinated database on all licensees as required by the rules of the commission, including all of the following:

(1) Identifying information.

(2) Licensure data.

(3) Significant investigatory information.

(4) Adverse actions against a psychologist's license.

(5) An indicator that a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or temporary authorization to practice is revoked.

(6) Non-confidential information related to alternative program participation information.

(7) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reasons for such denial.

(8) Other information which may facilitate the administration of this compact, as determined by the rules of the commission.

C. The coordinated database administrator shall promptly notify all compact states of any adverse action taken against, or significant investigative information on, any licensee in a compact state.

D. Compact states reporting information to the coordinated database may designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the compact state reporting the information.

E. Any information submitted to the coordinated database that is subsequently required to be expunged by the law of the compact state reporting the information shall be removed from the coordinated database.

ARTICLE X. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT COMMISSION

A. The compact states hereby create and establish a joint public agency known as the psychology interjurisdictional compact commission.

(1) The commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the compact states.

(2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the commission is located. The commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

(3) Nothing in this compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

B. Membership, voting, and meetings.

(1) The commission shall consist of one voting representative appointed by each compact state who shall serve as that state's commissioner. The state psychology regulatory authority shall appoint its delegate. This delegate shall be empowered to act on behalf of the compact state. This delegate shall be limited to one of the following:

(a) Executive director, executive secretary, or similar executive.

(b) Current member of the state psychology regulatory authority of a compact state.

(c) Designee empowered with the appropriate delegate authority to act on behalf of the compact state.

(2) Any commissioner may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the law of the state from which the commissioner is appointed. Any vacancy occurring in the commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the compact state in which the vacancy exists.

(3) Each commissioner shall be entitled to one vote with regard to the promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the commission. A commissioner shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for commissioners' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of communication.

(4) The commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the bylaws.

(5) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as required under the rulemaking provisions in Article XI of this compact.

(6) The commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting if the commission is required to discuss any of the following:

(a) Non-compliance of a compact state with its obligations under the compact.

(b) The employment, compensation, discipline or other personnel matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees, or other matters related to the commission's internal personnel practices and procedures.

(c) Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation against the commission.

(d) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services, or real estate.

(e) Accusation against any person of a crime or formally censuring any person.

(f) Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential.

(g) Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would

constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(h) Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes.

(i) Disclosure of information related to any investigatory reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the commission or other committee charged with responsibility for investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the compact.

(j) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal and state statute.

(7) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision, the commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision. The commission shall keep minutes which fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, of any person participating in the meeting, and the reasons therefor, including a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

C. The commission shall, by a majority vote of the commissioners, prescribe bylaws and rules to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes and exercise the powers of the compact, including but not limited to all of the following:

(1) Establishing the fiscal year of the commission.

(2) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for all of the following:

(a) For the establishment and meetings of other committees.

(b) Governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the commission.

(3) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the commission, ensuring reasonable advance notice of all meetings, and providing an opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest, the privacy of individuals of such proceedings, and proprietary information, including trade secrets. The commission may meet in closed session only after a majority of the commissioners vote to close a meeting to the public in whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the commission shall make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting revealing the vote of each commissioner with no proxy votes allowed.

(4) Establishing the titles, duties, and authority and reasonable procedures for the election of the officers of the commission.

(5) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of the personnel policies and programs of the commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar law of any compact state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the commission.

(6) Promulgating a code of ethics to address permissible and prohibited activities of commission members and employees.

(7) Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the commission and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds that may exist after the termination of the compact after the payment and reserving of all of its debts and obligations.

(8) The commission shall publish its bylaws in a convenient form and file a copy thereof and a copy of any amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or officer in each of the compact states.

(9) The commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws.

(10) The commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this compact and the bylaws.

D. The commission shall have all of the following powers:

(1) The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and administration of this compact. The rules shall have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all compact states.

(2) To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the commission, provided that the standing of any state psychology regulatory authority or other regulatory body responsible for psychology licensure to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected.

(3) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.

(4) To borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel including but not limited to employees of a compact state.

(5) To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the compact, and to establish the commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters.

(6) To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services and to receive, utilize, and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest.

(7) To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, or mixed; provided that at all times the commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

(8) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed.

(9) To establish a budget and make expenditures.

(10) To borrow money.

(11) To appoint committees, including advisory committees comprised of members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this compact and the bylaws.

(12) To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law enforcement agencies.

(13) To adopt and use an official seal.

(14) To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact consistent with the state regulation of psychology licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, and telepsychology practice.

E. The executive board. The elected officers shall serve as the executive board, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the commission according to the terms of this compact.

(1) The executive board shall be comprised of the following members:

(a) Five voting members who are elected from the current membership of the commission by the commission.

(b) One ex officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities.

(2) The ex officio member will have served as staff or member on a state psychology regulatory authority and will be selected by its respective organization.

(3) The commission may remove any member of the executive board as provided in bylaws.

(4) The executive board shall meet at least annually.

(5) The executive board shall have all of the following duties and responsibilities:

(a) Recommend to the entire commission changes to the rules or bylaws, changes to this compact legislation, fees paid by compact states, such as annual dues, and any other applicable fees.

(b) Ensure compact administration services are appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise.

(c) Prepare and recommend the budget.

(d) Maintain financial records on behalf of the commission.

(e) Monitor compact compliance of member states and provide compliance reports to the commission.

(f) Establish additional committees as necessary.

(g) Other duties as provided in rules or bylaws.

F. Financing of the commission.

(1) The commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

(2) The commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.

(3) The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each compact state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the commission and its staff which shall be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all compact states.

(4) The commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the commission pledge the credit of any of the compact states, except by and with the authority of the compact state.

(5) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the commission.

G. Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.

(1) The members, officers, executive director, employees, and representatives of the commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit and liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

(2) The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee or representative of the commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her own counsel; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

(3) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, or representative of the commission for the

amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

ARTICLE XI. RULEMAKING

A. The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this article and the rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.

B. If a majority of the legislatures of the compact states rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any compact state.

C. Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the commission.

D. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the commission, and at least sixty days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon, the commission shall file a notice of proposed rulemaking on the website of the commission and the website of each compact state's psychology regulatory authority or the publication in which each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

E. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include all of the following:

(1) The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will be considered and voted upon.

(2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the proposed rule.

(3) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person.

(4) The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written comments.

F. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the commission shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

G. The commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is requested by any of the following:

(1) At least twenty five persons who submit comments independently of each other.

(2) A governmental subdivision or agency.

(3) A duly appointed person in an association that has at least twenty-five members.

H. If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the commission shall publish the place, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing.

(1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the executive director of the commission or other designated member in writing of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than five business days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

(2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing.

(3) No transcript of the hearing is required unless a written request for a transcript is made, in which case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu of a transcript under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This Paragraph shall not preclude the commission from making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it so chooses.

(4) Nothing in this Subsection shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the commission at hearings required by this Subsection.

I. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not held, the commission shall consider all written and oral comments received.

J. The commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

K. If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is received, the commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without a public hearing.

L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the compact and in this Subsection shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that is required to be adopted immediately in order to do any of the following:

(1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare.

(2) Prevent a loss of commission or compact state funds.

(3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule.

(4) Protect public health and safety.

M. The commission or an authorized committee of the commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and delivered to the chair of the commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the commission.

ARTICLE XII. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT

A. Oversight.

(1) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in each compact state shall enforce this compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

(2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a compact state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the commission.

(3) The commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any such proceeding and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the commission, this compact, or promulgated rules.

B. Default, technical assistance, and termination.

(1) If the commission determines that a compact state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the promulgated rules, the commission shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other compact states of the nature of the default, the proposed means of remedying the default, or any other action to be taken by the commission.

(b) Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.

(2) If a state in default fails to remedy the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the compact states, and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this compact shall be terminated on the effective date of termination. A remedy of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

(3) Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be submitted by the commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the compact states.

(4) A compact state which has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations which extend beyond the effective date of termination.

(5) The commission shall not bear any costs incurred by the state which is found to be in default or which has been terminated from the compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the commission and the defaulting state.

(6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the commission by petitioning the United States District Court for the state of Georgia or the federal district where the compact has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.

C. Dispute resolution.

(1) Upon request by a compact state, the commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the compact which arise among compact states and between compact and non-compact states.

(2) The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes that arise before the commission.

D. Enforcement.

(1) The commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.

(2) By majority vote, the commission may initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the State of Georgia or the federal district where the compact has its principal offices against a compact state in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney fees.

(3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the commission. The commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or state law.

ARTICLE XIII. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT COMMISSION AND ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENTS

A. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact is enacted into law in the seventh compact state. The provisions which become effective at that time shall be limited to the powers granted to the commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking powers necessary for the implementation and administration of the compact.

B. Any state which joins the compact subsequent to the commission's initial

adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the compact becomes law in that state. Any rule which has been previously adopted by the commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.

C. Any compact state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.

(1) A compact state's withdrawal shall not take effect until six months after enactment of the repealing statute.

(2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing state's psychology regulatory authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this compact prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

D. Nothing contained in this compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any psychology licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a compact state and a non-compact state which does not conflict with the provisions of this compact.

E. This compact may be amended by the compact states. No amendment to this compact shall become effective and binding upon any compact state until it is enacted into the law of all compact states.

ARTICLE XIV. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining compact states.

Section 2. R.S. 44:4.1(B)(24) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§4.1. Exceptions

* * *

B. The legislature further recognizes that there exist exceptions, exemptions, and limitations to the laws pertaining to public records throughout the revised statutes and codes of this state. Therefore, the following exceptions, exemptions, and limitations are hereby continued in effect by incorporation into this Chapter by citation:

* * *

(24) R.S. 37:74, 86, 90, 147, 691, 711.10, 763, 763.1, 781, 799, 920.1, 969.1, 1123(E), 1249.1, 1277, 1278, 1285, 1326, 1338.1, 1360.53.1, 1360.104.1, 1518, 1745.15, 1747, 1806, 2156.1, 2371, 2406, 2505.1, 2863.1, 3276.2, 3481, 3507.1

* * *

Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2028.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 303

HOUSE BILL NO. 519

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 13:4165(G), relative to the appointment of a special master; to provide for the application of the code of judicial conduct to special masters; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:4165(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§4165. Special masters; appointment; duties and powers; compensation; code of judicial conduct

* * *

G. For complex causes of action with multiple cases sharing common questions of fact, when consolidated pursuant to an order or rules adopted by the supreme court, any appointment of a special master by a trial court pursuant to this Section shall comply with the ethical requirements of the Code of Judicial Conduct as applicable and the requirements of Fed. Civ. R. 53 as to the appointment and disqualification of a master, except to the extent those requirements are specifically inconsistent with state law. Any appointment as described in this Subsection shall also be subject to the provisions of Paragraphs (2) and (6) of Subsection F of this Section. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the provisions of this Subsection apply to those complex cases designated or approved under rules adopted for this purpose by the Louisiana Supreme Court with all appointments under this Subsection complying with those rules and the ethical requirements of this Subsection.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 304

HOUSE BILL NO. 535

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHENEVERT, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOYER, BUTLER, CARVER, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, EGAN, FISHER, HORTON, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, MCFARLAND, OWEN, AND WYBLE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:46.12(E), relative to hospital-based paternity programs; to provide relative to a voluntary acknowledgment of paternity; to provide relative to the formality of a voluntary acknowledgment; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:46.12(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§46.12. Hospital-based paternity program

* * *

E. A voluntary acknowledgment executed in accordance with this Section shall be signed by both parents and the parents' signatures shall be authenticated by a person possessing notarial powers in accordance with state laws and does not otherwise require the presence or signature of two witnesses. Any acknowledgment of paternity obtained through a hospital-based paternity program pursuant to the process set forth in this Section has the same force and effect as an authentic act for purposes of changing or recording the paternity of the child with the state registrar of vital records. The provisions of this Subsection do not apply to parents under the age of eighteen who must establish paternity as otherwise provided by law.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 305

HOUSE BILL NO. 568

BY REPRESENTATIVE FIRMENT

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 40:981.3(D) and to enact R.S. 40:981.3(A)(4) and (E), relative to violations of drug free school zones; to provide for enhanced penalties for certain violations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:981.3(D) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 40:981.3(A)(4) and (E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§981.3. Violation of Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law; drug free zone

A.

* * *

(4) Any person who violates a provision of R.S. 40:966 through 970 of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law while smoking, vaping, or otherwise abusing such controlled dangerous substance while on any property used for school purposes by any school, within two thousand feet of any such property, or while on a school bus, shall, upon conviction, be punished in accordance with Subsection D of this Section.

* * *

D.(1) ~~Whoever~~ Except as provided in Subsection E of this Section, whoever violates a provision of this Section shall be punished by the imposition of the maximum fine and be imprisoned for not more than one and one-half times the longest term of imprisonment authorized by the applicable provisions of R.S. 40:966 through 970.(2) ~~A~~ Except as provided in Subsection E of this Section, a sentence imposed for a violation of the provisions of this Section shall not be subject to parole, probation, or suspension of sentence to the extent that the minimum sentence for a violation of a felony provision of R.S. 40:966 through 970 is not subject to parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.

E. Notwithstanding Subsection D of this Section, whoever violates a provision of this Section by committing an act which also constitutes a violation of R.S. 40:966(C)(2) shall be punished by imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for not more than one year and may, in addition, be required to pay a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 306

HOUSE BILL NO. 574

BY REPRESENTATIVES SPELL AND CHASSION

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 28:64(A)(3), relative to the Mental Health Advocacy Service board of trustees; to provide for the name change of the state's mental health organizations that are members of the Mental Health Advocacy Service board; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 28:64(A)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§64. Mental Health Advocacy Service; creation; board of trustees; organization; powers; duties

A.

* * *

(3) The service shall be governed by a board of trustees consisting of nine members to be made up of the deans of the law schools or their designated

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

faculty members from Loyola University of the South, Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College Law Schools and from the medical and law schools of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College and Tulane University of Louisiana, the president of the ~~Mental Health Association of Louisiana~~ Louisiana Mental Health Association or his representative, and a selected member from the ~~Louisiana Medical Society~~ Louisiana State Medical Society and the Louisiana State Bar Association.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 307

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 633
BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 47:118(B), (C)(1), (D)(introductory paragraph), (1)(introductory paragraph) and (b), and (2), 287.655(C)(1), (D)(2) and (3), and (G)(introductory paragraph) and (1), and 287.656(A)(1) and (2)(introductory paragraph) and to repeal R.S. 47:118(D)(1)(c), relative to estimated income tax; to calculate the period of underpayment; to assess penalties for an excessive adjustment; to modify requirements to apply for an adjustment for overpayment; to repeal certain calculations for exemptions from a penalty for an underpayment; to provide for applicability; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 47:118(B), (C)(1), (D)(introductory paragraph), (1)(introductory paragraph) and (b), and (2), 287.655(C)(1), (D)(2) and (3), and (G)(introductory paragraph) and (1), and 287.656(A)(1) and (2)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§118. Failure by individual to pay estimated income tax; penalty

* * *

B. Amount of underpayment. (1) For purposes of Subsection A, the amount of the underpayment shall be the excess of:(a) The amount of the installment which would be required to be paid if the estimated tax were equal to ~~ninety~~ seventy percent ~~(sixty-six and two-thirds percent in the case of individuals referred to in R.S. 47:117(B), relating to income from farming)~~ of the tax shown on the return for the taxable year or, if no return was filed, ~~ninety~~ seventy percent ~~(sixty-six and two-thirds percent in the case of individuals referred to in R.S. 47:117(B), relating to income from farming)~~ of the tax for such year, over

(b) The amount, if any, of the installment paid on or before the last date prescribed for such payment.

(2) For the purposes of determining the amount of underpayment, the amount of the required installment shall be:

(a) Except as provided in Subparagraph (b), the amount of any required installment shall be twenty-five percent of the required annual payment.

(b) For purposes of Subparagraph (a), the term "required annual payment" means the lesser of:

(i) ~~Ninety~~ Seventy percent of the tax shown on the return for the taxable year (or, if no return is filed, ~~ninety~~ seventy percent of the tax for such year), or

(ii) One hundred percent of the tax shown on the return of the individual for the preceding taxable year.

(3) For purposes of this Subsection and Paragraph (D)(1) of this Section, in the case of individuals referred to in R.S. 47:117(B) and 117.1(B), relating to income from farming and fishing, the percentage to be applied in lieu of seventy percent shall be sixty-six and two-thirds percent.

C. Period of underpayment. The period of the underpayment shall run from the date the installment was required to be paid to whichever of the following dates is earlier:

(1) The ~~15th~~ fifteenth day of the ~~fourth~~ fifth month following the close of the taxable year;

* * *

D. Exception. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding Subsections, the penalty ~~imposed~~ with respect to any underpayment of any installment shall not be imposed if no declaration of estimated tax is required to be filed ~~under~~ pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 47:116(A), or if the total amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date prescribed for the payment of ~~such~~ the installment equals or exceeds ~~whichever of the following is the lesser~~ the lesser of the following:

(1) The amount which would have been required to be paid on or before ~~such~~ the last date prescribed for the payment of that installment if the estimated tax were ~~whichever of the following is the least.~~ the lesser of any of the following:

* * *

(b) An amount equal to the tax computed at the ~~rates applicable to the taxable year on the basis of the taxpayer's status with respect to personal exemptions and credits for dependents under R.S. 47:79 for the taxable year,~~ rate and the standard deduction applicable to the current tax year, pursuant to R.S. 47:294, but otherwise on the basis of the facts shown on ~~his~~ the taxpayer's return for, and the law applicable to, the preceding taxable year, or

* * *

(2) An amount equal to ~~ninety~~ seventy percent of the tax computed, at the ~~rates~~ rate applicable to the taxable year, on the basis of the actual taxable income for the months in the taxable year ending before the month in which the installment is required to be paid.

* * *

§287.655. Failure by corporation to pay estimated income tax

* * *

C. Period of underpayment. The period of the underpayment shall run from the date the installment was required to be paid to whichever of the following dates is the earlier:

(1) The ~~15th~~ fifteenth day of the ~~fourth~~ fifth month following the close of the taxable year.

* * *

D. Exception. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding Subsections, the penalty ~~imposed~~ with respect to any underpayment of any installment shall not be imposed if the total amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date prescribed for payment of ~~such~~ the installment equals or exceeds the amount which would have been required to be paid on or before ~~such~~ that date, if the estimated tax were ~~whichever of the following is the lesser:~~ the lesser of any of the following:

* * *

(2) An amount equal to the tax computed at the ~~rates~~ rate applicable to the taxable year but otherwise on the basis of the acts shown on the return of the corporation for, and the law applicable to, the preceding taxable year.

(3)~~(a)~~ An amount equal to eighty percent of the tax for the taxable year, on the basis of the actual taxable income for the months in the taxable year ending before the month in which the installment is required to be paid. ~~computed by placing on an annualized basis the taxable income:~~

~~(i) for the first three months of the taxable year, in the case of the installment required to be paid in the fourth month,~~

~~(ii) for the first three months or for the first six months of the taxable year, in the case of the installment required to be paid in the sixth month of the taxable year,~~

~~(iii) for the first six months or the first eight months of the taxable year in the case of the installment required to be paid in the ninth month, and~~

~~(iv) for the first nine months or for the first eleven months of the taxable year, in the case of the installment to be paid in the twelfth month of the taxable year.~~

~~(b) For purposes of this Paragraph, the taxable income shall be placed on an annualized basis by~~

~~(i) multiplying by twelve the taxable income referred to in Subparagraph (a), and~~

~~(ii) dividing the resulting amount by the number of months in the taxable year (3, 5, 6, 8, 9, or 11, as the case may be) referred to in Subparagraph (a).~~

* * *

G. Excessive adjustment ~~under~~ pursuant to R.S. 47:287.656.

(1) Addition to tax. If the amount of an adjustment ~~under~~ pursuant to R.S. 47:287.656 made before the fifteenth day of the ~~fourth~~ fifth month following the close of the taxable year is excessive there shall be added to the tax ~~under~~ pursuant to this Part for the taxable year a penalty of twelve percent per annum upon the excessive amount from the date on which the credit is allowed or the refund is paid to ~~such~~ the fifteenth day of the fifth month.

* * *

§287.656. Adjustment of overpayment of estimated income tax by corporation

A. Application of adjustment.

(1) Time for filing. A corporation may, after the close of the taxable year and on or before the fifteenth day of the ~~fourth~~ fifth month thereafter, and before the day on which it files a return for ~~such~~ the taxable year, file an application for an adjustment of an overpayment by it of estimated income tax for ~~such~~ the taxable year. An application ~~under~~ pursuant to this Subsection shall not constitute a claim for credit or refund.

(2) Form of application. An application under this Subsection shall be verified in the manner prescribed in the case of a return of the taxpayer and shall be filed in the manner and form prescribed by the secretary ~~of revenue and taxation~~. The application shall set forth:

* * *

Section 2. R.S. 47:118(D)(1)(c) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to income tax periods beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

Section 4. 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 22, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 308

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 635
BY REPRESENTATIVES HORTON AND EDMONSTON AND SENATOR HODGES

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

AN ACT

To enact Part IV-A of Chapter 2 of Title 14 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 14:391 through 391.3, and R.S. 40:2405.10, relative to offenses affecting organized government; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for definitions; to provide for types of conduct that constitute criminal activity; to provide for penalties; to authorize certain training programs; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Part IV-A of Chapter 2 of Title 14 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 14:391 through 391.3, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

PART IV-A. PROTECTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES IN LOUISIANA ACT

§391. Legislative intent; short title

A. The legislature hereby finds that certain foreign adversaries and foreign terrorist organizations pose a growing threat to the citizens and residents of this state based on the practice of extranational enforcement of foreign laws, foreign directives, or foreign religious tenets that are contrary to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Louisiana and are invoked as a substitute for federal or state law. The purpose of this Part is to counter this threat by protecting persons in this state from the harassment and repression of liberty and freedom caused by these extranational practices.

B. This Part shall be known and may be cited as the "Protection of Constitutional Liberties in Louisiana Act".

§391.1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Part, the following terms have the following meanings:(1) "Agent of a foreign adversary" means a person, entity, or organization directed or controlled by a foreign adversary or who is the proxy of a foreign adversary.

(2) "Agent of a foreign terrorist organization" means a person, entity, or group directed or controlled by a foreign terrorist organization or who is the proxy of a foreign terrorist organization.

(3) "Constitutionally protected conduct" means any action or behavior that is lawful under the laws of this state or the United States and constitutes the free exercise of any of the following:

(a) Freedom of religion, as protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America and Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution of Louisiana.

(b) Freedom of speech or expression, as protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and Article I, Section 7, of the Constitution of Louisiana.

(c) The right of assembly or to petition any federal, state, or local government entity for the redress of grievances as protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and Article I, Section 9, of the Constitution of Louisiana.

(4) "Foreign adversary" means any country specified in 15 CFR 791.4 or any similar regulation that is subsequently promulgated in the Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) "Foreign law" means any law, rule, or legal code or system established and used or applied by a foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization in a jurisdiction outside of the states or territories of the United States.

(6) "Foreign terrorist organization" means any of the following:

(a) An entity designated as a foreign terrorist organization in accordance with 8 U.S.C. 1189 or any similar law that is subsequently promulgated by the United States Department of State.

(b) An entity designated as a "specially designated national" in accordance with 31 CFR 515.306 or any similar regulation that is subsequently promulgated in the Code of Federal Regulations by the United States Department of the Treasury.

(7) "Transnational repression" means an act emanating from or attributable to a foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization that is committed by an agent of that foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization with the intent to harass, intimidate, censor, or otherwise extend the ability of the foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization to influence, control, or impose its preferences on the behavior of people outside of the territorial jurisdiction of the foreign adversary through either of the following means:

(a) Directly by means of physical contact, threats, or electronic targeting.

(b) Indirectly by means of actual or credible threats of collective punishment, financial coercion, abuse of administrative processes, selective prosecution of laws of general application, the use or direction of social media or telecommunication entities, or harassment of others.

§391.2. Violation; penalties

A.(1) No agent of a foreign adversary or agent of a foreign terrorist organization shall commit any criminal offense in this state while knowingly acting at the direction of, on behalf of, or under the influence of a foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization with the intent to do any of the following:

(a) Coerce a person to act on behalf of a foreign adversary or foreign terrorist organization.

(b) Coerce a person to leave the United States or cause another person to leave the United States.

(c) Cause a person to refrain from engaging in constitutionally protected conduct.

(d) Retaliate against a person for engaging in constitutionally protected conduct.

(2) No person shall intentionally engage in the obstruction, detection, investigation, monitoring, or surveillance of another person or governmental entity with the intent to enforce or institute the prosecution of a foreign law in violation of the laws of this state or of the United States.

B.(1) Any person who violates the provisions of Paragraph (A)(1) of this Section by committing a criminal offense that is a noncapital felony shall, in addition to the penalty for commission of the underlying offense, be punished as follows:

(a) If the underlying offense is punishable by imprisonment for a term of not more than five years, the offender shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for an additional period of one year. The additional penalty imposed pursuant to this Subparagraph shall be served consecutively to the sentence imposed for the underlying offense.

(b) If the underlying offense is punishable by imprisonment for a term of more than five years but less than fifteen years, the offender shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for an additional period of two years. The additional penalty imposed pursuant to this Subparagraph shall be served consecutively to the sentence imposed for the underlying offense.

(2) Whoever violates the provisions of Paragraph (A)(2) of this Section shall be punished as follows:

(a) If the offender was acting as an agent of a foreign adversary or an agent of a foreign terrorist organization at the time of the violation, the offender shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars, imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than three years nor more than six years, or both.

(b) If the offender was not acting as an agent of a foreign adversary or an agent of a foreign terrorist organization at the time of the violation, the offender shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars, imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less than two years nor more than four years, or both.

§391.3. Application of foreign law; unenforceability

Any decision from a court, arbitrator, tribunal, or administrative agency that is based in whole or in part on foreign law is void and unenforceable in this state if it denies a party a liberty, right, or privilege guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of Louisiana.

Section 2. R.S. 40:2405.10 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2405.10. Transnational repression recognition and response; training and education

The Department of Justice, office of the attorney general, Louisiana Bureau of Investigation, may provide or adopt a training program for transnational repression recognition and response. The program may be obtained from another state or federal governmental entity or from a nongovernmental entity that specializes in training and educating law enforcement. The training may be updated to address emerging threats and specific information on tactics used by specific foreign adversaries or foreign terrorist organizations.

Section 3. The Department of Justice, office of the attorney general, Louisiana Bureau of Investigation may implement the training program authorized in R.S. 40:2405.10 as enacted by Section 2 of this Act on or before July 1, 2027.

Section 4. 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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 309

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 636

BY REPRESENTATIVES LAFLEUR, ADAMS, BAGLEY, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BOURRIAQUE, BOYD, BRASS, BROUSSARD, CARLSON, CARPENTER, CARRIER, WILFORD CARTER, CARVER, CHASSION, CHENEVERT, COX, DEVILLIER, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, EDMONSTON, FISHER, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, GLORIOSO, GREEN, HEBERT, DANA HENRY, HILFERTY, HORTON, ILLG, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JORDAN, KNOX, MANDIE LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MCFARLAND, MCMAHEN, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, MENA, MILLER, MOORE, MURRAY, OWEN, PHELPS, SAWYER, SCHLEGEL, ST. BLANC, STAGNI, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, VENTRELLA, VILLIO, WALTERS, WILEY, AND WYBLE AND SENATORS ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BARTHELEMY, BASS, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CLOUD, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, MYERS, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, SEABAUGH, STINE, TALBOT, WHEAT, AND WOMACK

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:1801 and to repeal R.S. 17:1801.1, relative to hazing of students at public postsecondary education institutions; to provide for the prevention of, reporting of, and response to hazing; to provide for definitions; to provide for reporting; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

Section 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as "The Caleb Wilson Hazing Prevention Act."

Section 2. R.S. 17:1801 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1801. Hazing prohibited; reporting; ~~documentation~~ documentation; education; policies; new student orientation; organizations

A. Definitions. For purposes of this Section, the following terms have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:(1)(a) "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person acting alone or with others that is directed against another individual, when both of the following apply:

(i) The actor knew or reasonably should have known that the act endangered the physical health or safety of the other individual or caused severe emotional distress.

(ii) The act was associated with pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, participation in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization.

(b) "Hazing" includes but is not limited to any of the following acts associated with pledging, initiation, affiliation, participation, holding office, or maintaining membership in any organization:

(i) Physical brutality including but not limited to beating, branding, electric shocking, paddling, placing a harmful substance on the body, striking, or similar activity.

(ii) Physical activity that subjects an individual to an unreasonable risk of harm, adversely affects physical health or safety, or causes severe emotional distress including but not limited to calisthenics, confinement in a small space, exposure to the elements, and sleep deprivation.

(iii) Activity involving the consumption of food, liquid, or any other substance, including but not limited to alcohol or drugs, that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm, adversely affects physical health or safety, or causes severe emotional distress.

(iv) Activity that induces, causes, or requires an individual to commit a crime or engage in an act that constitutes hazing under this Section.

(c) A physical activity that is normal, customary, and necessary for training and participation in an athletic, physical education, military training, or similar program officially sanctioned by the postsecondary education institution shall not be considered hazing for purposes of this Section.

(2) "Hearing panel" means a body designated by a postsecondary education institution pursuant to its student code of conduct to adjudicate alleged hazing violations, and to determine responsibility and recommend or impose sanctions when suspension or expulsion may be a possible outcome.

(3)(a) "Organization" means any group whose members are primarily students at, or former students of, a postsecondary education institution including but not limited to the following:

(i) An association.
(ii) An athletic team.
(iii) A band.
(iv) A club.
(v) A cooperative.
(vi) A corporation.
(vii) A corps.
(viii) A fraternity.
(ix) An order.
(x) A service group.
(xi) A social group.
(xii) A spirit group.
(xiii) A society.
(xiv) A sorority.
(xv) Any similar group.

(b) "Organization" includes any national, regional, or parent organization of which an entity listed in this Paragraph is a sanctioned, recognized, or affiliated member at the time an incident of hazing occurs.

(4) "Pledging" means any action or activity related to becoming a member of an organization, including recruitment, rushing, and initiation-related activities.

(5) "Postsecondary education institution", "education institution", and "institution" mean any postsecondary education institution in this state supported wholly or in part by public funds.

(6) "Student organizational advisor" means an individual who is a faculty or staff member at an institution, or other adult who is designated by an institution or by a student organization, to provide guidance, support, and advice to a student organization relative to conducting the organization's activities, programs, and meetings.

B. Hazing prohibited; education; resources. (1) Hazing in any form~~, or the use of any method of initiation into organizations in any education institution supported wholly or in part by public funds, which is likely to cause bodily danger or physical punishment to any student or other~~ of any person attending ~~any such~~ an education institution is prohibited.

~~B.~~ (2) Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be expelled, suspended, or dismissed from the education institution and not permitted to return for at least one semester, quarter, or comparable academic period. In addition, the person violating the provisions of this Section may also be subject to the provisions of R.S. 14:40.8 which provides penalties for certain hazing activities.

(3)(a) Beginning in the fall semester of 2027, and annually thereafter, each student shall be provided education information on the dangers of and prohibition on hazing either in-person or electronically.

(b) In addition to the requirement in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, each new student shall be provided educational information on the dangers of and prohibition on hazing during the new student orientation process either in-person or electronically.

(c) If a student is a minor, the information shall be provided to his parent or legal guardian.

(4)(a) Each institution and organization shall make available and provide information about resources to a student who is an alleged victim of hazing, including information on how to access medical and reporting resources and counseling that the institution or community offers.

(b) Each institution shall incorporate the requirements of this Section into its hazing prevention policies as required by Subsection D of this Section.

C. Reporting; data publication. (1) If an organization has taken disciplinary action against one of its ~~members~~ members, representatives, or officers for hazing or has reason to believe that any member of the organization has participated in an incident of hazing, the organization shall report the incident to law enforcement in accordance with R.S. 14:40.8 and the institution with which it is affiliated.

(2) If an organization or any of its ~~members~~ members, representatives, or officers has been disciplined by a parent organization for hazing, the organization shall report the hazing for which the organization was disciplined to the institution with which it is affiliated.

(3) If an organization fails to report an incident of hazing as required by this Section, the institution shall impose a disciplinary action against the organization in accordance with institutional policies.

~~(2)~~ (4) When the institution receives a report of an alleged incident of hazing pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the institution shall do both of the following:

(a) Report to law enforcement as required by R.S. 14:40.8. The information reported to law enforcement shall include all information and details received by the institution relative to the alleged incident, with no information being redacted, including the name of all individuals alleged to have committed the act or acts of hazing identified in the report.

(b) Document in writing all actions taken with regard to the report including but not limited to the date the report was received, reports made to law enforcement as provided in R.S. 14:40.8, and any other information relative to the institution's investigation, processing, and resolution of the incident.

~~(3)~~ (5) The ~~Board of Regents, in consultation with the~~ public postsecondary education management boards, in consultation with the Board of Regents, shall develop the following:

(a) A standardized form that organizations ~~shall~~ may use in making the reports required by Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

(b) A standardized form that institutions ~~shall~~ may use to document such reports, reports made to law enforcement as provided in R.S. 14:40.8, and the manner in which each hazing incident is handled and resolved at the institution level. However, an institution may use third party reporting software in lieu of such form.

~~(c) A policy relative to making available to the public certain information relative to hazing that is documented pursuant to this Paragraph.~~

~~D. For purposes of this Section and R.S. 17:1801.1:~~

~~(1)(a) "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act by a person acting alone or acting with others that is directed against another when both of the following apply:~~

~~(i) The person knew or should have known that such an act endangers the physical health or safety of the other person or causes severe emotional distress.~~

~~(ii) The act was associated with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, participating in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization.~~

~~(b) "Hazing" includes but is not limited to any of the following acts associated with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, participating in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization:~~

~~(i) Physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, paddling, striking, branding, electric shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity.~~

~~(ii) Physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, or calisthenics, that subjects the other person to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the physical health or safety of the individual or causes severe emotional distress.~~

~~(iii) Activity involving consumption of food, liquid, or any other substance, including but not limited to an alcoholic beverage or drug, that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the physical health or safety of the individual or causes severe emotional distress.~~

~~(iv) Activity that induces, causes, or requires an individual to perform a duty or task that involves the commission of a crime or an act of hazing.~~

~~(c) A physical activity that is normal, customary, and necessary for a person's training and participation in an athletic, physical education, military training, or similar program sanctioned by the postsecondary education institution is not considered "hazing" for purposes of this Section.~~

~~(2) "Organization" means a fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, service group, social group, band, spirit group, athletic team, or similar group whose members are primarily students at, or former students of, a postsecondary education institution. "Organization" includes the national or parent organization of which any of the underlying entities provided for in this Paragraph is a sanctioned or recognized member at the time of the hazing.~~

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

~~(3) "Pledging" means any action or activity related to becoming a member of an organization, including recruitment and rushing.~~

~~(4) "Postsecondary education institution", "education institution", and "institution" mean any postsecondary education institution in this state supported wholly or in part by public funds.~~

(6) Online publication. (a) Each institution shall maintain a publicly accessible website that discloses conduct findings and disciplinary sanctions imposed on organizations recognized or affiliated with the institution, provided that personally identifiable information of individuals shall be redacted pursuant to Subparagraph (e) of this Paragraph.

(b) At a minimum, for each organization that the institution found responsible for a policy or code violation, the website shall include the following:

(i) The name of the organization.

(ii) Each specific policy listed in the institutional student code of conduct that the organization violated.

(iii) A brief description of the violation, presented in a manner that protects individual privacy.

(iv) The date on or academic term in which the organization violated policy.

(v) The disciplinary sanctions the institution imposed on the organization.

(vi) The current disciplinary status of the organization.

(c) The institution shall update the information on the website required by this Section at least once per academic semester no later than April tenth and October tenth and additionally as new violations are adjudicated or sanctions are modified or imposed.

(d) Each institution shall determine a minimum period of time for which disciplinary records and status information shall remain publicly available. This period of time shall not be shorter than the duration of the sanction and any probationary period.

(e) Privacy Protections. The information that the institution posts on the publicly accessible website shall exclude the names and personally identifiable information of individual students and shall comply with all applicable state and federal privacy laws.

(f) Applicability. This Paragraph applies to all organizations as defined in this Section.

(g) The management boards shall send an annual systemwide summary report of the information contained in this Paragraph to the Board of Regents by January thirtieth.

(h) The Board of Regents shall submit a report of a summary of the information in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph to the House and Senate committees on education, the House Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice, the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure, and the House and Senate select committees on women and children by February twenty-eighth annually. The report shall also include any recommendations for legislation. The Board of Regents shall publish the report on its website.

D. Hazing prevention policy. (1) The Board of Regents, in consultation with each postsecondary management board, shall establish uniform policies and best practices to implement measures to address the reporting of hazing on institutional campuses and the prevention of hazing.

(2) Each postsecondary education management board shall institute policies incorporating the policies and best practices prescribed by the Board of Regents regarding the prevention of and reporting of hazing committed by or against students of an institution. The policies, at a minimum, shall provide for the following:

(a) Online reporting. Each institution shall provide an online reporting system permitting third-party reporting, allowing any individual to submit a confidential or anonymous report of a witnessed or known incident of hazing, regardless of whether the reporting individual is the person directly impacted.

(b) Immunities. A person acting in good faith who reports or assists in the investigation of a report of an incident of hazing, or who testifies or otherwise participates in a disciplinary process or judicial proceeding arising from such a report, shall not be subjected to any disciplinary action by the institution in which the person is enrolled or employed for any violation of the institution's code of conduct that is reasonably related to the incident, provided that suspension or expulsion from the institution is not a possible punishment for the violation. This Subparagraph shall not apply to a person who perpetrates or assists in the perpetration of a reported hazing incident.

(c) False reporting. An individual who is determined by the institution's disciplinary procedures to have knowingly, with the intent to harm or deceive, made a report that is knowingly false shall be sanctioned in accordance with the institution's code of conduct or any other applicable institutional policies.

(d) Amnesty policy. The institution shall provide amnesty to any student who reports hazing to the institution in good faith. Such student shall not be sanctioned by the institution for a nonviolent student conduct violation, such as underage drinking, that is revealed in the course of such a report.

(e) Training. (i) Each organization shall do the following:

(aa) Annually complete at least two hours of hazing prevention education training, in person, electronically, or both, that includes education relative to such policies to all members and anyone who is employed by or volunteers at the organization.

(bb) Submit a training completion report annually to the institution with which it is affiliated identifying the students, employees, and volunteers who received the education, evidenced by an attestation of such individuals receiving the education.

(cc) The institution shall deactivate the organization's operation on campus if it fails to comply with the provisions of this Subsection.

(ii)(aa) Student organizational advisors. Each individual designated by an institution or organization to serve as an advisor shall annually complete, at a minimum, one hour of hazing prevention education training prior to serving as an advisor or in an advisory capacity.

(bb) The training specific to organizational advisors shall include, at a minimum, an overview of applicable hazing laws and institutional policies, reporting obligations, and advisor responsibilities related to the prevention of hazing.

(cc) Organizational advisors shall submit a training completion report to the institution evidenced by an attestation of such individuals receiving the education.

(iii) Hearing Panel. (aa) Each individual serving on an institutional hearing panel or disciplinary body responsible for adjudicating alleged hazing violations shall annually complete hazing prevention education training prior to service on the panel.

(bb) The training shall be a minimum of one hour in duration and shall include instruction on hazing definitions and indicators, applicable laws and policies, trauma-informed practices, due process considerations, and sanctioning standards.

(cc) Hearing panelists shall submit a training completion report to the institution evidenced by an attestation of such individuals receiving the education.

(3) Each institution shall adopt a hazing prevention policy and the policy shall be published on the institution's website.

(4) Each organization shall, as a condition of operating at an institution, adopt the hazing prevention policy that the institution has adopted pursuant to Paragraph (3) of this Subsection and shall provide a copy of the policy, either electronically or in writing, to each member and prospective member prior to initiation, acceptance, or participation in organizational activities.

E. Penalties for noncompliance. (1) The penalties for noncompliance with the provisions of this Section are as follows:

(a) Institutions. An institution's failure to comply with the provisions of this Section shall result in a prohibition, for a period of two years following notice of such noncompliance, on the State Bond Commission authorizing the institution to incur any debt subject to the commission's approval.

(b) Organizations. (i) If an organization is in violation of this Section, it shall be subject to disciplinary action by the institution, which may include suspension, expulsion, deactivation, loss of recognition, or other sanctions deemed appropriate.

(ii) If a violation by an organization of this Section results in the death of a person, the institution shall banish the organization and prohibit re-chartering, re-establishing, or operating under any name, alias, or affiliated organization.

Section 3. R.S. 17:1801.1 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 310

HOUSE BILL NO. 657
BY REPRESENTATIVES BRYANT, BEAULLIEU, BOUDREAUX, BRASS, WILFORD CARTER, CHASSION, FISHER, HEBERT, JACKSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JACOB LANDRY, LARVADAIN, MENA, MILLER, MOORE, MURRAY, NEWELL, OWEN, SPELL, THOMPSON, AND WALTERS
AN ACT

To designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 182 in the city of Jeanerette as the "Berwick 'BJ' LeJeune, Jr. Memorial Highway"; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 182 in New Iberia as the "Ret. Judge Richard 'Dickey' Haik, Sr. Highway"; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 182 in New Iberia as the "Col. Terry C. Landry, Sr. Highway"; to donate a portion of Louisiana Highway 96 in St. Martinville as the "Phillip 'Poppa' Dauterive III 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 182 in the city of Jeanerette, between Hubertville Road and Canal Street, shall be known and is hereby designated as the "Berwick 'BJ' LeJeune, Jr. Memorial Highway".

Section 2. The portion of Louisiana Highway 182 in the city of New Iberia from South Evangeline Street to Louisiana Highway 3212, shall be known and is hereby designated as the Ret. Judge Richard 'Dickey' Haik, Sr. Highway".

Section 3. The portion of Louisiana Highway 182 in New Iberia from Louisiana Highway 3212 to the city limit of Lafayette, shall be known and is hereby designated as the "Col. Terry C. Landry, Sr. Highway".

Section 4. The portion of Louisiana Highway 96 in St. Martinville, extending from the Saint Martin Parish Sheriff Regional Training Academy to Freedom Lane, shall be known and is hereby designated as the "Phillip 'Poppa' Dauterive III Memorial Highway".Section 5. The Department of Transportation and Development or its contractors are hereby directed to erect and maintain appropriate signage reflecting these designations provided local or private monies are received by the department equal to the department's actual cost for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 311

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 675
BY REPRESENTATIVE RISER AND SENATORS ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BASS, CLOUD, EDMONDS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MIGUEZ, MIZELL, MORRIS, PRICE, REESE, STINE, TALBOT, WHEAT, AND WOMACK
AN ACT

To designate a portion of United States Highway 425 from Morgan Street to Louisiana Highway 913 in the parish of Franklin as the "Assistant Chief Bill 'Putt' Linder Memorial Highway"; to designate a portion of Louisiana Highway 121 in the parish of Rapides as the "Sheriff William Earl Hilton Memorial Highway"; to designate the portion of Louisiana Highway 16 at Seventh Ward Elementary School Zone in the parish of Livingston as the "Katy Wells Memorial Crossing Corridor"; to provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1.(A) The portion of United States Highway 425 from Morgan Street to Louisiana Highway 913 in the parish of Franklin, shall be known and is hereby designated as the "Assistant Chief Bill 'Putt' Linder Memorial Highway".

(B) The portion of Louisiana Highway 16 at Seventh Ward Elementary School Zone in the parish of Livingston, shall be known and is hereby designated as the "Katy Wells Memorial Crossing Corridor".

(C) The Department of Transportation and Development or its 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 cost for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per sign.Section 2.(A) The portion of Louisiana Highway 121 beginning at the intersection of Louisiana Highway 112 in Hineston, Louisiana, extending to Louisiana Highway 28, in Gardner, Louisiana, all situated in Rapides Parish shall be known and is hereby designated as the "Sheriff William Earl Hilton Memorial Highway".

(B) The Department of Transportation and Development or its 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 cost for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of the signage, not to exceed the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars per sign.

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 22, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 312

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 676
BY REPRESENTATIVES SPELL AND CHASSION
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:70.5.1, relative to misappropriation without violence; to create the crime of fraudulent patient referrals or "body brokering"; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to provide for penalties; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:70.5.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§70.5.1. Fraudulent patient referrals; "body brokering"

A. No person shall knowingly or intentionally do either of the following:

(1) Solicit, offer, pay, or receive any fee, payment, rebate, commission, or anything of value from a person for the referral of a patient to a residential substance abuse facility, mental health facility, or a facility licensed for substance use disorder treatment or services.

(2) Urge or market to any person to make, furnish, or receive any fee, payment, rebate, commission, or anything of value for the referral of a patient to a residential substance abuse facility, mental health facility, or a facility licensed for substance use disorder treatment or services.B. The provisions of this Section do not apply to a person who, pursuant to a lawful agreement, makes, receives, or otherwise furnishes any fee, payment, commission, or rebate that does not vary based on any of the following:

(1) The number of patients referred to a residential substance abuse facility, mental health facility, or a facility licensed for substance use disorder treatment or services.

(2) The duration, level, volume, or nature of the substance use disorder treatment services provided to a patient.

(3) The amount of benefits for treatment or services provided to a patient that are provided by a carrier to a residential substance use disorder treatment facility, mental health facility, or a facility licensed for substance use disorder treatment or services.

C. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Person" means a natural or juridical person, including but not limited to a health care provider, health care facility, non-profit organization, clinical laboratory, recovery residence, or any other individual or entity.

(2) "Residential substance abuse facility" means any licensed behavioral health service provider with a residential substance use disorder treatment facility module.

D. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than five years, fined not more than fifty thousand dollars, or both.

E. In addition to the penalties provided in Subsection D of this Section, a person convicted under this Section shall be ordered to make full restitution to the victim and any other person who has suffered a financial loss as a result of the offense in accordance with Code of Criminal Procedure Article 883.2.

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 22, 2026.
A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 313

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 680
BY REPRESENTATIVES WYBLE, BAMBURG, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BRAUD, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARVER, CHENEVERT, COATES, CREWS, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, ECHOLS, FREIBERG, GLORIOSO, HEBERT, KERNER, KNOX, LAFLEUR, LYONS, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, OWEN, RISER, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, WALTERS, WRIGHT, AND ZERINGUE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 23:20, 33, 2041, 2056, 2061(2), 2062(2) and (4), 2063(A)(1), 2065(A)(4), (7), and (8), 2091, and 2191, to enact R.S. 23:2062(5) and (6) and R.S. 23:2065.1, and to repeal R.S. 23:2054, 2063(A)(2) and (3), 2065(A)(9), and 2192 through 2195, relative to workforce development; to provide legislative intent; to provide a workforce system planning process; to provide for administration funding; to provide for executive organization; to provide for the goals, duties, and functions of the Workforce Investment Council; to require an annual parish-level workforce outcomes report to the legislature; to provide for the transfer of state advisory council responsibilities; to provide for workforce development boards; to provide definitions; to provide for a Transition Advisory Team; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 23:20, 33, 2041, 2056, 2061(2), 2062(2) and (4), 2063(A)(1), 2065(A)(4), (7), and (8), 2091, and 2191 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 23:2062(5) and (6) and 2065.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§20. State and local planning process; local workforce development boards; Transition Advisory Team

A. The secretary shall design and implement a ~~state and local planning process for workforce training and services, including the certification of business/career solution centers and the chartering of local workforce development boards, provided through the programs under the jurisdiction of the office of workforce development~~ workforce system planning process consistent with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., and to the extent allowed by federal law or approved federal waiver. The planning process may include statewide, regional, or other governance or service delivery structures as designated by the governor, including the certification of one-stop centers and, when applicable, the establishment, oversight, consolidation, or restructuring of local workforce development boards or successor governance entities. The planning process shall require meaningful consultation with and participation from local workforce development partners and employers, chief elected officials, and regional stakeholders in the development, implementation, and modification of such plans.

B.(1) There is hereby created a Transition Advisory Team herein referred to as the "team", which shall advise Louisiana Works throughout the planning process.

(2) The team shall be comprised of the following members:

(a) The secretary of Louisiana Works.

(b) Two local elected officials appointed by the Police Jury Association of Louisiana.

(c) Two employers appointed by the secretary of Louisiana Works.

(d) An appointee of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

(e) An appointee of Louisiana Economic Development.
(f) An appointee from the Louisiana AFL-CIO.
(g) Workforce Stakeholder appointed by the secretary of Louisiana Works.
§33. Administration funding
A. ~~Unless superseded by federal law, the commission may use an amount not to exceed twenty percent of the amount of funds available to the commission for workforce training and services to implement state-level responsibilities, including administration, research and planning, system design and development, and training and technical assistance.~~ Unless otherwise provided by federal law, Louisiana Works may reserve and expend funds for state-level administration, planning, research, system design and development, performance management, oversight, technical assistance, and other statewide workforce system responsibilities in amounts consistent with federal requirements and approved waivers.
B. The governor may designate Louisiana Works to act as the fiscal agent for grant funds associated with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., and to the extent allowed by federal law or approved federal waiver.
C. In the allocation and expenditure of workforce funds, Louisiana Works shall establish a formal process for meaningful consultation with local workforce partners and employers to ensure that funding decisions reflect regional labor market conditions, employer needs, and workforce priorities.
D. It is the intent of the legislature that any modernization of the workforce development system preserves meaningful local input, regional responsiveness, and the engagement of local workforce development partners and employers, chief elected officials, and community stakeholders in decisionmaking processes.

* * *

§2041. Legislative declaration; intent
A. The legislature hereby declares:
(1) That the existing vocational, technical, basic and remedial education, support services, employment, and job training programs systems lack statewide coordination and that this lack of statewide coordination makes it difficult to ascertain duplication of services and program impact, and more importantly, does not allow for a serious analysis to determine the responsiveness of the system in meeting the needs of both employers and individuals in need of program services.
(2) That global economics and technological forces are creating a new knowledge-intensive economy that requires a highly adaptable and better educated workforce. Yet, too many Louisiana citizens are not prepared for the skill requirements of the workplace. Too many problems persist among our human resources that suggest a growing gap between the skills employers need and the skills both new and experienced workers bring to the labor market. These problems include an unacceptable number of high school drop-outs, high school graduates who show serious skill deficiencies, and adults who are unemployed, are underemployed, or face dislocation in the future because of illiteracy or inadequate basic skills.
(3) That the education and skill level of our human resources are the foundation of our economic prosperity and a means by which we can increase productivity, raise our standard of living, and lift our poor out of poverty.
B. The legislature hereby finds all of the following:
(1) That this state is experiencing sustained economic growth and increased demand for skilled workers across multiple industries, and, as such, requires a workforce development system that is capable of operating at scale and responding quickly to labor market needs.
(2) Act No. 330 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature strengthened workforce governance by reinforcing Louisiana Works' role in statewide strategic planning, regional coordination, and system alignment, while promoting greater accountability and performance across workforce programs.
(3) The current structure of multiple local workforce development areas results in duplicative administrative costs, fragmented customer service, reduced oversight, and lower investments in direct training and employment services.
(4) Federal law permits states to request waivers and administrative flexibilities pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve efficiency, accountability, and outcomes for workers and employers.
C. It is the intent of the legislature to authorize and require Louisiana Works to pursue federal waivers and administrative flexibilities necessary to modernize the state's workforce development system, reduce unnecessary administrative overhead, maximize the share of workforce resources dedicated to direct services and employer-driven strategies, and implement a unified, statewide planning, performance, and accountability framework that prioritizes measurable employment outcomes, employer engagement, and responsible stewardship of federal and state workforce development funds.

* * *

§2056. Executive organization
For the purposes of executive branch organization, the council is placed within the ~~executive office of the secretary~~ office of management and finance under the purview of the secretary of Louisiana Works pursuant to R.S. 36:301(C)(1).
§2061. Definitions
As used in this Chapter, the following terms have the meaning herein ascribed to them:

* * *

(2)(a) "Board" means ~~a local~~ the entity designated by the governor to carry out workforce development board ~~as described in~~ functions pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq. or such successor entity as may be established by or pursuant to federal law, which may include a local workforce development board, the state workforce development board, a regional body, or another entity authorized to perform such functions.
(b) Any alternative entity designed by the governor shall include representation from local workforce development partners and employers, or their successors. However, such representation shall not eliminate required local stakeholder participation.

* * *

§2062. Goals
The goals of the council are:

* * *

(2) ~~To advocate for the development of an integrated workforce development delivery system that provides competitive quality services addressing the needs of businesses and workers in Louisiana~~ To establish a unified statewide planning, performance, and accountability framework to ensure consistent service delivery and standards across regions.

* * *

(4) ~~To ensure the equitable distribution of quality education, training, and employment services statewide, especially to distressed and rural areas and areas serving the economically disadvantaged citizens of this state~~ To allocate and administer workforce funds in order to prioritize measurable employment outcomes, employment engagement, and efficient use of state and federal resources while preserving meaningful regional input.
(5) To establish a unified and statewide planning, performance, and accountability framework that incorporates formal input from local workforce development partners and employers and regional stakeholders.
(6) To allocate and administer workforce funds while ensuring ongoing meaningful consultation with local workforce development partners and employers and preserving meaningful regional input and decisionmaking authority.
§2063. Strategic plan
A.(1) The council shall develop, prepare, adopt, and submit to the governor a comprehensive state ~~combined~~ plan that establishes strategic goals, objectives, and measures that provide direction for the provision of services and coordination of resources by the state's workforce development delivery system. The plan shall establish benchmarks for each measure and shall provide recommended strategies for implementation by state agencies and private entities, and shall include documented meaningful input from local workforce development partners and employers, including regional plans, priorities, and performance data. ~~The combined plan shall be updated on a biennial basis.~~ The state plan, which shall also serve as the regional plan, shall be developed and updated in accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101, et. seq., and applicable federal regulations.

* * *

§2065. Council duties and functions
A. The council shall:

* * *

(4) Recommend to the governor the ~~geographic~~ designation, redesignation, consolidation, or restructuring of workforce development areas, planning regions, or other governance or service delivery structures for the ~~delivery~~ administration of workforce development services funded through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.

* * *

(7) Assist the department in ~~requesting~~ developing and submitting requests for federal waivers ~~allowed under~~ authorized pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq, and applicable federal regulations, for the purpose of modernizing and improving the administration of the state's workforce development system, including but not limited to waivers that would do any of the following:
(a) Authorize the Workforce Investment Council to carry out a coordinated, statewide workforce system with state directed strategy, reduction of administrative duplication, fiscal oversight, and a single statewide one-stop operation framework which shall be delivered by local workforce development partners and employers.
(b) Eliminate unnecessary administrative layers, duplicative governance structures, and prescriptive requirements that impede coordination, efficiency, or integrated service delivery.
(c) Establish consistent performance expectations across regions to improve accountability of workforce-related programs.
(d) Provide flexibility in the allocation, consolidation, reallocation, or administration of workforce development funds in order to maximize the proportion of resources directed to training, employment services, work-based learning, layoff aversion, and employer-focused activities.
(e) Streamline planning, infrastructure funding, procurement, and service delivery requirements to support a unified statewide workforce system consistent with federal law.
(8) Perform all duties required by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., and applicable federal regulations, for the state workforce development board, and, when authorized by federal law or approved waiver authority, perform the duties otherwise assigned to local workforce development boards or related governance entities. The council shall also carry out ~~including carrying out the~~ federally

and state-mandated ~~duties and~~ responsibilities for ~~all~~ advisory councils, committees, or successor bodies established by ~~under~~ applicable federal and state workforce development programs.

* * *

§2065.1. Annual workforce outcomes report; disaggregation by parish

A. No later than February fifteenth of each year, Louisiana Works, in coordination with the Workforce Investment Council, shall prepare and submit a comprehensive Annual Workforce Outcomes Report to the governor, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, and the legislative auditor. The first report required by this Section shall be submitted no later than February 15, 2027, and shall cover fiscal year 2025-2026.

B. The report shall include, at a minimum, all of the following data, reported both statewide and disaggregated by parish of the participant's residence at the time of program entry:

(1) The number of individuals who received workforce development services funded in whole or in part with state or federal workforce funds, reported separately for adults, dislocated workers, and youth.

(2) The number and percentage of program participants in unsubsidized employment during the second and fourth quarters after program exit.

(3) Median earnings of program participants during the second quarter after program exit.

(4) The number and percentage of participants who obtained a recognized postsecondary credential, industry-recognized certification, or secondary school diploma, or its recognized equivalent, during participation or within one year after program exit.

(5) Measurable skill gains achieved by participants in education or training programs leading to a recognized credential or employment.

(6) The effectiveness of services to employers, including employer penetration rate, repeat employer engagement rate, and the number of work-based learning opportunities created, including apprenticeships, on-the-job training, internships, and incumbent worker training.

(7) Total state and federal workforce development funds expended, categorized by direct training, direct participant services, employer-focused activities, supportive services, and administration.

(8) Cost per participant and cost per credential attained.

(9) Outcomes for participants residing in rural parishes, economically distressed parishes, and parishes with unemployment rates exceeding the state average, identified separately.

C. The report shall also include year-over-year comparisons for the preceding five fiscal years where data are available, a narrative assessment of any significant disparities in outcomes between parishes or regions, and a description of corrective actions undertaken or recommended to address identified disparities.

D. Louisiana Works shall publish the annual report on its official website in both a machine-readable, open data format suitable for secondary analysis and a summary format suitable for general public review. The underlying parish-level data shall be published concurrently with the report and shall remain publicly accessible for no less than ten years.

E. Not later than March fifteenth of each year following submission of the report, the Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations and the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations shall each convene a public hearing to review the report and receive testimony from Louisiana Works, local workforce development partners and employers, chief elected officials, and the public.

F. Parish-level data required by this Section shall be de-identified and aggregated as necessary to protect the confidentiality of individual participants, consistent with applicable state and federal privacy laws. Where small cell sizes would risk re-identification, data may be suppressed or combined, provided that the report clearly identifies each instance of suppression and the reason therefor.

G. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to duplicate or replace reporting required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., or applicable federal regulations. Louisiana Works may incorporate data elements from federal reporting to satisfy the requirements of this Section, provided that the parish-level disaggregation required under Subsection B of this Section is fulfilled.

H. Louisiana Works shall bear sole responsibility for compiling, analyzing, and publishing the data required by this Section. Louisiana Works shall use data already collected through the statewide workforce information system, participant case management system, unemployment insurance wage records, and federal reporting required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to impose on any local workforce development board, local workforce development partner, chief elected official, parish, or municipality any new data collection, compilation, or reporting obligation beyond that already required under applicable federal or state law. Louisiana Works shall not condition the receipt of workforce development funds on the submission of data or reports that duplicate information otherwise available to Louisiana Works through existing systems.

* * *

§2091. Transfer of state advisory council responsibilities

~~A. The council shall perform the responsibilities assigned to the state advisory council under the following federal laws:~~

~~(1) The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.~~

~~(2) The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).~~

~~(3) The Adult Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.).~~

~~(4) The Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.).~~

~~(5) The employment program established under Section 6(d)(4), Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2015(d)(4)).~~

~~(6) The National Literacy Act of 1991 (20 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.).~~

~~B. The council shall assume the responsibilities formerly exercised by the following state advisory councils:~~

~~(1) The Louisiana Employment and Training Council.~~

~~(2) The State Council on Vocational Education.~~

~~(3) The State Occupational Information Coordinating Council.~~

~~(4) The Adult Education Advisory Council.~~

~~(5) The State Apprenticeship Council.~~

~~(6) The Governor's School-to-Work Council.~~

~~(7) The Louisiana Employment Security Advisory Council.~~

~~(8) Such other state advisory commissions or councils as the council recommends and the governor approves.~~

~~C.~~ Upon approval of the governor, the council may, by administrative rule, assume the responsibilities of other state advisory councils or commissions and perform all duties and responsibilities related to them.

* * *

§2191. Workforce development boards

A. ~~There shall be a local workforce development board for every workforce development area~~ The governor may designate workforce development areas, planning regions, or other governance or service delivery structures in accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq., and applicable federal law. The governor may designate one or more local workforce development boards, authorize the state to operate as a single statewide local workforce development area, or assign such duties to the Workforce Investment Council or another entity as permitted by federal law or approved waivers. Pursuant to federal law, approved federal waiver authority, or an approved state plan modification, the governor may designate the Workforce Investment Council to perform any or all duties otherwise assigned to local workforce development boards.

B. In making designations, redesignations, consolidations, or structural modifications, the ~~The~~ governor shall ~~designate local areas within the state after consulting~~ consult with the ~~state~~ Workforce Investment Council~~, chief elected officials, and local boards, and after~~ and provide an opportunity for public comments from businesses, labor organizations, institutions of higher education, local officials, including meaningful formal input from local workforce development partners and employers, which shall be documented and considered prior to final designation decisions, and other ~~primary~~ stakeholders~~, and the general public~~.

Section 2. R.S. 23:2054, 2063(A)(2) and (3), 2065(A)(9), and 2192 through 2195 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 3. The Transition Advisory Team as required by the provisions of R.S. 23:20(B) as enacted by Section 1 of this Act shall terminate operations eighteen months after the effective date of this Act.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 314

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 721

BY REPRESENTATIVES KERNER AND CHASSION

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:499.4, relative to commercial shrimping; to create an exception to the prohibition on night shrimping in inside waters of the state; to allow commercial shrimping in certain inside waters beginning at 5:30 a.m.; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:499.4 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§499.4. Night shrimping; inside waters; Vermilion Bay; East and West Cote Blanche Bays; Atchafalaya Bay; exceptions; prohibition

A. No person shall take shrimp at night, from one-half hour after official sunset until one-half hour before official sunrise, from the inside waters of Vermilion Bay, West Cote Blanche Bay, East Cote Blanche Bay, and Atchafalaya Bay, from the western shore of Vermilion Bay to the western shore of the Atchafalaya River and the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel out to Eugene Island, as described by the inside-outside line in R.S. 56:495, except that night shrimping shall be allowed in the waters of Southwest Pass at Marsh Island south of a line drawn from the following points: the most southeastward point of Southwest Pass at 29 degrees 36 minutes 47 seconds north latitude, 92 degrees 00 minutes 32 seconds west longitude east southeast to the Green Light Channel Marker Number 21 at 29 degrees 36 minutes 44 seconds north latitude, 92 degrees 00 minutes 21 seconds west longitude; thence northeast to a point located at 29 degrees 37 minutes 34 seconds north latitude, 91 degrees 59 minutes 36 seconds west longitude; thence southeast to the western shore of Big Charles Bayou at 29 degrees 36 minutes 43 seconds north latitude, 91 degrees 59 minutes 17 seconds west longitude.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

B. Notwithstanding Subsection A of this Section, during any open shrimp season, licensed commercial shrimp harvesters may begin trawling in Vermilion Bay, East Cote Blanche Bay, and West Cote Blanche Bay at 5:30 a.m.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 315

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 727

BY REPRESENTATIVES DESHOTEL, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAYHAM, WILFORD CARTER, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, ECHOLS, EGAN, FIRMENT, JACOB LANDRY, MCCORMICK, MELERINE, OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, TAYLOR, AND WALTERS

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 30:2155.2, relative to construction debris; to prevent the Department of Environmental Quality from prohibiting burning of certain construction debris; to provide for rules and regulations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 30:2155.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2155.2. Construction debris

A. The department shall not prohibit the burning of untreated, unpainted dimensional lumber or wood mats.

B. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Section.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 316

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 757

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 56:320(J), relative to methods of taking freshwater or saltwater fish; to prohibit the taking of menhaden; to provide for strict liability; to provide for penalties; to provide for a definition; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:320(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§320. Methods of taking freshwater or saltwater fish

* * *

J.(1) No person shall knowingly and intentionally authorize, direct, or have control or ownership of an agent or vessel involved in the taking of menhaden for commercial purposes within the area designated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries pursuant to LAC 76:VII.307 of the Louisiana Administrative Code.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subpart A of Part II of Chapter 1 of this Title, whoever violates the provisions of this Subsection shall be held strictly liable for the taking and punished as follows:

(a) For a first violation, the violator shall be fined two thousand five hundred dollars.

(b) For a second violation, the violator shall be fined five thousand dollars.

(c) For a third violation, the violator shall be fined seven thousand five hundred dollars.

(3) For purposes of this Subsection, "person" means a natural person.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 317

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 813

BY REPRESENTATIVE MANDIE LANDRY

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 13:5581(A), relative to the sheriff for the parish of Orleans; to provide for the sheriff's term of office; to provide for the term of office for the sheriff elected at the election for parochial or municipal officer in Orleans Parish in 2029; to provide for the beginning of the term of office for each sheriff elected thereafter; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 13:5581(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§5581. Sheriff for parish of Orleans; election; term

A. There shall be one sheriff 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~~,~~ and shall serve for a term of four years~~, and shall take office and begin his term on the first Monday in May following his election~~. However, the sheriff elected at the election for parochial and municipal officers in Orleans Parish in 2029 shall serve until his successor takes office on January 9, 2034. Each sheriff elected thereafter shall take office on the second Monday in January following election.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 318

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 815

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARVER

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:41(C)(1)(k), relative to vital records in the custody of the state registry; to provide for the disclosure of records to federally insured financial institutions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:41(C)(1)(k) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§41. Disclosure of records

* * *

C.(1) The state registrar shall not permit inspection of the records or issue a certificate, or any part thereof, unless he is satisfied that the applicant is any of the following:

* * *

(k) A federally insured bank or federally insured credit union, or its duly authorized agent.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 319

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 825

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRAUD AND MANDIE LANDRY

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1346.1(introductory paragraph) and (2), 1346.2, 1346.3(A) and (C), 1346.4, and 1346.5 (A)(1) and (4) and (B)(1), relative to stated value policies; to define certain terms; to clarify valuation standards; to provide for certain notices; to provide for the information dissemination requirements of the department; to make technical changes; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1346.1(introductory paragraph) and (2), 1346.2, 1346.3(A) and (C), 1346.4, and 1346.5 (A)(1) and (4) and (B)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1346.1. Definitions

~~As used in this Section~~ For the purpose of this Subpart, the following ~~terms have the following meanings~~ definitions apply:

* * *

(2) "Stated value policy" means a residential insurance policy under which the insured ~~has the option to~~ may declare a stated value for the insured residential property, which is agreed upon by the insurer as the amount of insurance coverage, irrespective of the ~~current market~~ replacement cost value of the property.

§1346.2. ~~Requirement to offer stated~~ Stated value policy offer

~~A.~~ Insurers offering residential property policies within this state may offer a stated value policy option to homeowners upon the request of the homeowner or his authorized agent, allowing for the insurance coverage to be based on a stated value of the residential property as declared by the homeowner or authorized agent, rather than ~~solely on the market value of the property~~ the replacement cost value of the property.

~~B. Any insurer that offers a stated value policy option to homeowners as provided in Subsection A of this Section shall prominently disclose stated value policy offerings in all insurance policy proposals, agreements, and renewal documents provided to consumers.~~

§1346.3. Homeowner requirements

A. A homeowner electing a stated value policy shall submit to his insurer a written payoff statement from ~~the~~ each financial institution or any other entity holding a mortgage or lien on the property. This statement shall accurately reflect the outstanding balance or the nature of the mortgage or lien on the homeowner's property at the time the homeowner applies for or renews an insurance policy. In addition to the financial statement required in this Subsection, a homeowner shall also provide to his insurer a mortgage certificate from the clerk of court indicating the presence or absence of a mortgage on the property.

* * *

C. (1) Before issuing any ~~policy that limits coverage on the residential property equal to the unpaid principal balance of all mortgage loans on the~~ stated value policy, the insurer shall obtain a statement signed by insureds

which contains the following notice in boldfaced type no smaller than eighteen-point font:

"YOU ARE ELECTING TO PURCHASE COVERAGE AT A LIMIT THAT IS ~~EQUAL TO ONLY THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL BALANCE OF THE MORTGAGE LOANS ON YOUR HOME~~ LESS THAN REPLACEMENT COST. ACCORDINGLY, IN THE EVENT OF THE TOTAL LOSS OF YOUR HOME OR A LOSS FOR WHICH THE COST TO REPAIR YOUR HOME EXCEEDS ~~THE UNPAID BALANCE ON YOUR MORTGAGE LOAN~~ COVERAGE PROVIDED BY THE POLICY, YOU WILL INCUR SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL LOSSES, INCLUDING THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF SOME OR ALL OF YOUR HOME'S EQUITY."

(2) This Subsection shall not be construed to affect coverage under an insurance policy or create a cause of action against the insurer or the insurer's agent or representative.

* * *

§1346.4. Minimum policy value

An insurer shall not issue a stated value policy for a sum less than the verified outstanding balance of ~~any~~ all mortgage and liens on the homeowner's property, ensuring that the insurance coverage adequately reflects the financial obligations associated with the property.

. §1346.5. Dissemination of information on risks associated with stated value policies; commissioner

A. To promote consumer awareness within the insurance marketplace, the commissioner shall provide clear, understandable, and accessible informational materials to consumers regarding the risks, potential disadvantages, and limitations associated with stated value policies. At a minimum, the commissioner shall include the following in informational materials:

(1) A clear explanation of what stated value policies are and how they differ from other types of property insurance policies, including but not limited to ~~differences of replacement costs~~ replacement cost policies.

* * *

(4) Consumer tips for evaluating insurance options and understanding policy terms, including instructions ~~on~~ as to how the consumer may ask questions and seek clarification from the insurer about the terms and conditions of a stated value policy.

B.(1) The commissioner shall establish a dedicated section on the department's website for consumers to access the informational materials described in this Section ~~and shall distribute the informational materials to homeowners at least once every two years through either direct mail, email, or other means deemed appropriate by the commissioner~~.

* * *

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 320

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 826

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:1598(A) and (B), relative to insurance; to provide with respect to referrals for sales and information on insurance products; to provide for compensation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1598(A) and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1598. Referrals

A. Any person or entity ~~who is~~ not licensed to sell insurance may refer a ~~customer to a person, or the telephone number of a person, who sells or provides~~ consumer by telephone number, electronic mail address, or website or provide a direct referral to a person or an insurance company, including affiliates or partners, that sells or provides opinions or advice on any insurance product.

B. Any compensation received by the person or entity making a referral provided for in Subsection A of this Section shall not be in the form of a sales commission ~~and shall not be~~ nor based on the ~~application by the customer or~~ consumer's eventual purchase of insurance.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 321

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 835

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHAMERHORN

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:302.9(H) through (J) and to enact R.S. 56:302.9(K), relative to charter guide wildlife management area access permits; to create an annual charter guide wildlife management area access permit; to establish a fee for the permit; to provide for the privileges conveyed by the permit; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:302.9(H) through (J) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 56:302.9(K) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§302.9. Charter boat fishing guide license; nonresident fee

* * *

H. A charter boat fishing guide licensee performing for-hire fishing guide activity within a wildlife management area may purchase a Charter Guide WMA Access Permit. This permit satisfies the wildlife management area access permit requirements for the charter fishing guide and his clients when engaged in a for-hire fishing trip within a wildlife management area. The fee for the Charter Guide WMA Access Permit shall be one hundred dollars. The permit is valid for one year, beginning on January first of each calendar year and expiring on December thirty-first of the same calendar year.

I. Each charter boat fishing guide licensee may complete a landing report and return the report to the department at the time and manner designated by the commission. The commission shall establish the information to be provided in the landing report by the charter boat fishing guide licensee. The landing report may include information on the number of trips taken, number of anglers fishing on a trip, area fished, time fished, trip origin, any information determined by the commission to be necessary to properly manage the fishery resource of the state, and any information required by the commission to prepare stock assessments. However, the commission shall not request any financial information. The information provided by a licensee shall be maintained as confidential in accordance with R.S. 56:301.4. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this Subsection.

~~I. Except for Subsection H, a violation of any provision of this Section shall constitute a class four violation, R.S. 56:34.~~

J. Penalties.

(1) Except for Subsection I of this Section, a violation of any provision of this Section shall constitute a class four violation subject to the penalties of R.S. 56:34.

(2) In addition to any other penalty provided for in this Section, for any person convicted of a first offense of violating Subsection A or B of this Section, the offender shall pay a fine of no less than one thousand dollars to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. For any person convicted of a second offense of violating Subsection A or B of this Section, the offender may only operate a vessel that employs a vessel monitoring system for ~~the~~ three years after the date of the conviction. For any person convicted of a third or subsequent offense of violating Subsection A or B of this Section, the offender may only operate a vessel that employs a vessel monitoring system for ten years after the date of the conviction.

~~(2)~~ (3) Whenever an offender is required to employ a vessel monitoring system, access to the monitoring system shall be granted to the department, and the offender shall notify the department on which vessel or vessels the offender will be operating for commercial or recreational use. Any person required to be on board a vessel with an approved vessel monitoring system shall comply with all rules and regulations promulgated by the department or the commission to ensure compliance with vessel monitoring system requirements. The cost of a vessel monitoring system shall be the responsibility of the offender. The department shall approve the vessel monitoring system for use pursuant to this Section.

~~(3)~~ (4) Any charter guide or individual posing as a charter guide required to operate a vessel with an approved vessel monitoring system who is found operating any vessel that is not equipped with such a system, for commercial or recreational purposes, may have their charter guide license suspended and may be prohibited from obtaining such a license for the remainder of the year in which the person was found not abiding by the vessel monitoring requirement. In addition, the violator shall be sentenced to perform no less than forty hours of community service. If available, the hours shall be served in a litter abatement community service program.

~~(4)~~ K. The department shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of 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, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 322

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 846

BY REPRESENTATIVES BAYHAM AND MANDIE LANDRY

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:53(A)(3), relative to the display of motor vehicle license plates; to prohibit the application of coverings, films, substances, or devices over or on a license plate that impedes the visibility of the license plate; to define the term "obscure"; to establish penalties for violations; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:53(A)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§53. Proper equipment required on vehicles; display of plate

A.

* * *

(3)(a) Every permanent registration license plate shall at all times be securely fastened to the vehicle to which it is assigned, so as to prevent the plate from swinging, and at a height not less than twelve inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom of such plate, in a place and position to be clearly visible, and shall be maintained free from foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly legible. Unless authorized by the commissioner, a person shall not apply ~~a~~ any covering, film, electrochromatic film, coating, spray, frame, bracket, ~~or any~~ substance ~~to~~ , electronic or nonelectronic device, or any material over or on the license plate ~~or use an electronic device or electrochromatic film~~ that obscures from any angle the numbers, characters, year registration sticker, or name of the jurisdiction issuing the plate.

(b) For purposes of this Paragraph, "obscure" shall refer to any action or method that diminishes the visibility, legibility, or reflectivity of any numbers, characters, decals, stickers, symbols, or jurisdictional identifiers on a license plate.

(c) Notwithstanding the penalty provisions contained in R.S. 32:57, any person who violates the provisions provided for in this Paragraph shall incur a fine not to exceed seventy-five dollars for the first offense and a fine of two hundred fifty dollars for a second and any subsequent offense.

* * *

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

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 323

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 857

BY REPRESENTATIVE KERNER

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:4749.2(B)(introductory paragraph) and (1) and (D)(introductory paragraph), relative to imported seafood; to require labeling of commingled seafood; to provide penalties for commingled seafood labeled as domestic; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:4749.2(B)(introductory paragraph) and (1) and (D)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§4749.2. Imported seafood; testing; penalties

* * *

B. ~~Upon request of the department, the~~ The processor or distributor shall:

(1) Provide any information, if available, on whether the seafood has previously been tested in the country of origin or upon arrival in the United States upon request of the department.

* * *

D. If the department has reason to believe a commercial seafood processor or distributor is processing or distributing imported or commingled seafood packed or labeled as domestic seafood, the department may test the seafood to ensure the seafood is domestic. If the seafood is not domestic, the department may assess the following civil penalties on the commercial seafood processor or distributor:

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 324

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 889

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORGERON

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:449(C), relative to tagging of oysters; to establish a tag for bulk harvesting for alternative oyster cultivation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:449(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§449. Tags; distribution; use; containers; penalties

* * *

C.(1) All oysters and other molluscan species taken from Louisiana waters for sale which are sacked or otherwise containerized while in the shell and on board a fisherman's vessel shall be tagged prior to removal from the vessel. The tag shall include all information required by the Louisiana Department of Health, office of public health, and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. All oysters and other molluscan species which are to be sacked or otherwise containerized while in the shell at dockside shall be containerized and tagged immediately upon arrival at the dock prior to shipment.

(2) The department shall establish a bulk tagging process to be utilized for alternative oyster cultivation. The bulk tag may be utilized to represent all oysters on board the vessel between the harvest area and the dockside facility. The tag shall include all information required by the Louisiana Department of Health, office of public health, and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

* * *

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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ACT No. 325

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 903

BY REPRESENTATIVE ILLG

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:18(A), 257(B), 1019.3(D)(2), 1529(B), 1554(A)(introductory paragraph), 1672(A)(introductory paragraph), 1770, and 1808.8(A)(introductory paragraph), relative to fines issued by the commissioner; to provide for certain limitations; to make technical changes; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:18(A), 257(B), 1019.3(D)(2), 1529(B), 1554(A)(introductory paragraph), 1672(A)(introductory paragraph), 1770, and 1808.8(A)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§18. Suspension or revocation of insurers' licenses; fines; orders

A. The commissioner ~~of insurance~~ may, as a penalty, in accordance with R.S. 49:977.3, refuse to renew, or may suspend or revoke, the certificate of authority or license of any insurer, person, or entity violating any of the provisions of this Code, or in lieu of suspension or revocation of a certificate or license duly issued, the commissioner may levy a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation per insurer, person, or entity, up to one ~~hundred thousand~~ million dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per insurer, person, or entity, ~~when~~ if such violations warrant the refusal, suspension, or revocation of such certificate or license, or the imposition of the fine. The commissioner ~~is also authorized to~~ may also order any insurer, person, or entity to cease and desist any ~~such~~ action that violates any provision of this Code. An aggrieved party affected by the commissioner's decision, act, or order may demand a hearing in accordance with Chapter 12 of this Title, R.S. 22:2191 et seq. If the insurer has demanded a timely hearing, the penalty or fine ordered by the commissioner shall not be imposed until such time as the division of administrative law makes a finding that the penalty or fine is warranted in a proper hearing held in the manner provided in Chapter 12 of this Title.

* * *

§257. Suspension or revocation of certificate of authority

* * *

B. A certificate of authority shall be suspended or revoked only after compliance with the requirements of R.S. 22:259 except in cases where such delay would cause irreparable harm or substantial monetary loss in the opinion of the commissioner. In lieu of suspension or revocation of a license duly issued, the commissioner may levy a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation and up to ~~one hundred thousand~~ one million dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year. The commissioner ~~of insurance~~ is authorized to suspend the imposition of the fines authorized ~~under~~ pursuant to this Section.

* * *

§1019.3. Enforcement provisions; penalties; regulations

* * *

D.

* * *

(2) The commissioner may refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke the certificate of authority of any health insurance issuer violating any of the provisions of this Subpart, or in lieu of suspension or revocation of a license duly issued, the commissioner may levy a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation per health insurance issuer, up to one ~~hundred thousand~~ million dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per health insurance issuer, ~~when~~ if such violations, in his opinion, after a proper hearing, warrant the refusal, suspension, or revocation of such certificate, or the imposition of a fine. The commissioner ~~of insurance is authorized to~~ may withhold fines imposed ~~under~~ pursuant to this Subpart. Such hearing shall be held in the manner provided in Chapter 12 of this Title, R.S. 22:2191 et seq. Additionally, the commissioner may take any other administrative action, including imposing those fines and penalties enumerated in R.S. 22:18.

* * *

§1529. Penalties

* * *

B. A monetary penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars may be imposed

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

for each violation. No fine or fines shall be imposed against a lessor, pursuant to this Section, which aggregates in excess of ~~ten~~ one hundred thousand dollars in any calendar year.

* * *

§1554. License denial, nonrenewal, or revocation

A. The commissioner may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate an insurance producer license, or may levy a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars for each violation occurring, up to ~~ten~~ one hundred thousand dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per applicant or licensee, or any combination of actions, for any one or more of the following causes:

* * *

§1672. License denial, nonrenewal, or revocation

A. The commissioner ~~of insurance~~ may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate a claims adjuster's license or may levy a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars for each violation up to ~~ten~~ one hundred thousand dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year, unless a fine is established by separate statute in this Title authorizing a greater penalty, or any combination of actions, for any one or more of the following causes:

* * *

§1770. Penalties for violations

In the event that any provision of this Part or other applicable provision of this Title is violated by a limited licensee, the commissioner may revoke, suspend, refuse to renew, or levy a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation, up to one ~~hundred thousand~~ million dollars in the aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per limited licensee, or impose such other penalty as the commissioner may deem necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Part.

* * *

§1808.8. License denial, suspension, nonrenewal, or revocation

A. The commissioner ~~of insurance~~ may place on probation, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate an insurance consultant license, or may levy a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars for each violation occurring, up to ~~ten~~ one hundred thousand dollars aggregate for all violations in a calendar year per applicant or licensee, or any combination of these actions, for any one or more of the following causes:

* * *

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 326

HOUSE BILL NO. 904

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAMBURG

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 22:550.4, 550.10(E) and (F), 550.11, 550.13(E), 550.20, 550.21(introductory paragraph) and (1), 550.23(H), and 550.24(A) and to enact R.S. 22:550.3(D), 550.14(B)(5), and 550.21(4), relative to captive insurers; to provide for capital and surplus requirements; to require certain deposits; to prohibit insuring certain risks; to provide for the governance of a company; to provide for annual reporting requirements; to provide for the use of certain taxes; to provide for rate filings; to make technical changes; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:550.4, 550.10(E) and (F), 550.11, 550.13(E), 550.20, 550.21(introductory paragraph) and (1), 550.23(H), and 550.24(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 22:550.3(D), 550.14(B)(5), and 550.21(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§550.3. Applicability of other provisions

* * *

D. The commissioner may waive any requirements imposed in this Title for risk retention groups, unless the waiver would violate the accreditation requirements of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

§550.4. Regulations

The commissioner may promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to implement and enforce the provisions of this Subpart and to comply with accreditation standards of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners applicable to risk retention groups chartered and licensed as a captive insurance company.

* * *

§550.10. Capital and surplus requirements

* * *

E. Except as otherwise provided by the commissioner pursuant to Subsection F of this Section, the capital required to be maintained pursuant to this Section shall be in the form of cash, cash equivalents, bonds, marketable securities, surplus debentures, letters of credit, a trust approved by the commissioner and pledged to the commissioner, ~~or~~ evidences of indebtedness which are direct general obligations of the government of the United States, or any other form of capital as approved by the commissioner.

F. The commissioner may prescribe ~~additional~~ other forms of capital or other requirements relating to capital and surplus based on the type, volume, and nature of the insurance business that is transacted by the captive insurance company or risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state.

§550.11. Deposit required of association captive insurers

A. Before receiving a certificate of authority, all association captive insurance companies shall deposit with the commissioner a safekeeping or trust receipt from a bank located in the state and doing business within the state or from a savings and loan association chartered to do business in this state indicating that the association captive insurance company has deposited one hundred thousand dollars in money or bonds of the United States, the state of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, of the par value of not less than one hundred thousand dollars. All securities deposited pursuant to this Section shall be held in trust for the benefit and protection of and as security for all policyholders of the association captive insurance company making the deposit.

B. The commissioner may require a captive insurance company or a risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state to deposit with the commissioner a safekeeping or trust receipt from a bank located in this state and doing business within this state or from a savings and loan association chartered to do business in this state indicating that the captive insurance company or risk retention group has deposited money or bonds of the United States, this state, or a political subdivision of this state in an amount determined by the commissioner to address any financial solvency concerns. All securities deposited pursuant to this Section shall be held in trust for the benefit and protection of, and as security for, the policyholders of the captive insurance company or risk retention group or to address financial solvency concerns of the captive insurance company or risk retention group.

* * *

§550.13. Authorized and prohibited types of insurance

* * *

E.(1) An association captive insurance company shall not expose itself to loss on any one risk in an amount which exceeds ten percent of the captive insurer's capital and surplus. A risk, or any portion thereof, which has been reinsured shall be deducted in determining the limitation of risk prescribed in this Section.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the commissioner may grant authorization to a captive insurance company or a risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state to expose itself to loss on a single risk in any amount up to thirty percent of the capital and surplus of the captive insurance company or risk retention group. A risk, or any portion thereof, which has been reinsured shall be deducted in determining the limitation of risk prescribed in this Section.

* * *

§550.14. Formation and meetings of board of directors; additional requirements to transact insurance

* * *

B. A captive insurance company shall not engage in any insurance business in this state unless it complies with all of the following:

* * *

(5) Board members of risk retention groups that are chartered and licensed in this state shall comply with the corporate governance standards for domestic risk retention groups established by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

* * *

§550.20. ~~Prohibition on ownership~~ Ownership by an insurance company

~~A captive insurance company shall not do business in this state if an insurance company is directly or indirectly a member or owner of such captive insurance company, except when the member of the captive insurance company are all insurance companies.~~ A captive insurance company or risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state may do business in this state, regardless of whether an insurance company is directly or indirectly a member or owner of the captive insurance company or risk retention group.

§550.21. Annual report of financial condition to commissioner; regulations designating form; alternative date to file annual report

Every captive insurance company and risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state shall file each of the following with the department:

(1) Annually on or before March first, a statement of its financial condition for the year ending December thirty-first immediately preceding, and any amendment to the plan of operation at last year-end, verified by the oath of at least two of its executive officers. For a captive insurance company, ~~The~~ the statement shall be in the form prescribed by the commissioner. Risk retention groups chartered and licensed in this state shall use the appropriate National Association of Insurance Commissioners Annual Statement Blank prepared in accordance with the Instructions Handbook adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, as applicable. Risk retention groups chartered and licensed in this state shall follow the accounting procedures and practices prescribed by the Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, unless otherwise provided in law.

* * *

(4) Risk retention groups chartered and licensed in this state are required

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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to maintain governance standards that are substantially similar to the standards adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

* * *

§550.23. Taxes on premiums and assessments

* * *

H. ~~The premium tax revenues collected pursuant to this Section shall be transferred annually to the department for the regulation of captive insurance companies pursuant to this Subpart.~~ The commissioner may withhold the funds collected pursuant to this Section to defray the expense of collecting taxes imposed by this Section and the enforcement of this Subpart and for the operation of the department.

* * *

§550.24. Rates

A. Each captive insurance company and risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state may be required by the commissioner to ~~shall~~ file rates for property and casualty lines of insurance in accordance with Subpart O of Part IV of Chapter 4 of this Title, R.S. 22:1451 et seq. on an actuarially justified basis with the department. ~~and may use the rates forty-five days after filing, unless the department disapproves the use of rates within the forty-five period. For all other lines of insurance, captive insurance companies shall file rates on an actuarially justified basis with the department and may use the rates within the forty-five day period~~ If the commissioner requires a captive insurance company or risk retention group chartered and licensed in this state to file its rates with the department, the commissioner may disapprove a filing if it raises financial solvency concerns.

* * *

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

ACT No. 327

HOUSE BILL NO. 929

BY REPRESENTATIVES FIRMENT AND GREEN

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 22:1902(A)(12), 1964(31), and 1964.1, relative to unfair trade practices in the business of insurance; to provide for definitions; to prohibit certain unfair trade practices regarding the repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass; to require disclosures and notices related to the repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass and the calibration of advanced driver assistance systems; to provide for penalties; to provide for insurer-permitted practices; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 22:1902(A)(12), 1964(31), and 1964.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1902. Transacting a business of insurance by unauthorized insurer defined

A. Any of the following acts in this state, effected by mail or otherwise, by an unauthorized insurer or by any person acting with actual or apparent authority of the insurer, on behalf of the insurer, is deemed to constitute the transaction of an insurance business in or from this state:

* * *

(12) The repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass which is done in a manner that violates R.S. 22:1964.1.

* * *

§1964. Methods, acts, and practices which are defined as unfair or deceptive

The following are declared to be unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the business of insurance:

* * *

(31) Any violation of R.S. 22:1964.1, regarding the repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass.

§1964.1. Louisiana Motor Vehicle Glass Law; unfair insurance trade practice; prohibited acts; violations and penalties

A. As used in this Part, the following words shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) "Advanced driver assistance system" means any motor vehicle electronic safety system, as detailed in the applicable version of SAE International's SAE J3016 Levels of Driving Automation, or its relevant successor, that is designed to support the driver and motor vehicle in a manner intended to increase motor vehicle safety and reduce losses associated with motor vehicle crashes.

(2) "Motor vehicle glass" means the glass and non-glass parts associated with the replacement of the glass used in the windshield, doors, or windows of a motor vehicle.

(3) "Motor vehicle glass repair shop" means any person, including the person's employees and agents, that for compensation engages in the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(4) "Repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass" means and includes but is not limited to the inspection, repairing, restoring, or replacing of damaged motor vehicle glass and the calibrating or recalibrating of an advanced driver assistance system when an incident requires the replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

B. A motor vehicle glass repair shop or any other person who is compensated for the solicitation of insurance claims shall not engage in any of the following unfair trade practices:

(1) Offer a rebate, gift, gift card, cash, coupon, fee, prize, bonus, payment, incentive, inducement, or any other thing of value to any insured, insurance producer, or other person in exchange for directing or making a claim under a motor vehicle insurance policy for a repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(2) Charge fees and costs to an insured for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass, including but not limited to the calibration or recalibration of an advanced driver assistance system, which are higher than those fees and costs reasonably and customarily charged in this state.

(3) Submit false, misleading, or incomplete documentation or information to an insured or an insured's insurer, including any agent of the insured or insurer, for a repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(4) Advise an insured to falsify the date of damage or to misrepresent the geographical area where the repair or replacement work was conducted, in relation to an insured's claim or potential claim for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass, which results or would result in a higher insurance payment or a change in insurance coverage status.

(5) Falsely sign a work order or other insurance-related form relating to an insured's claim, or potential claim, for a repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(6) Misrepresent to an insured or the insured's insurer, including any agent of the insured or insurer, the price of a proposed repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(7) State that an insured's insurer has approved a repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass without verifying coverage directly with, or obtaining approval directly from, the insurer or the insurer's agent and obtaining confirmation of the coverage or approval by written or recorded communication.

(8) State that a repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass will be paid for entirely by an insurer and at no cost to the insured unless the coverage has been verified by the insurer or the insurer's agent.

(9) Do any of the following relative to an insured's claim or potential claim for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass:

(a) Damage, or encourage an insured to damage, the motor vehicle in order to increase the scope of the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(b) Perform work that is clearly and substantially beyond the level of work necessary to restore the motor vehicle to a safe pre-damaged condition in accordance with accepted or approved reasonable and customary techniques for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass.

(c) Misrepresent the motor vehicle glass repair shop's relationship to an insured or the insured's agent.

(d) Perform any other act that constitutes fraud or misrepresentation.

(10) Contract with a person for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass to be paid for pursuant to a first-party insurance policy until all of the following qualifications have been satisfied:

(a) The person has made a first-party claim for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass pursuant to a motor vehicle insurance policy.

(b) The motor vehicle glass repair shop has received a claim or referral number for the claim referenced in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

(c) The motor vehicle glass repair shop has provided written notification to the insured regarding the presence of an advanced driver assistance system in the motor vehicle. If such a system is present, the motor vehicle glass repair shop shall do all the following:

(i) Notify the insured, in writing, whether calibration or recalibration of the motor vehicle's advanced driver assistance system is needed after a motor vehicle glass repair or replacement as recommended by the vehicle manufacturer.

(ii) Notify the insured, in writing, whether the motor vehicle glass repair shop intends to calibrate or recalibrate the advanced driver assistance system in a manner that meets the motor vehicle manufacturer's specifications.

(iii) Notify the insured, in writing, that the motor vehicle should be taken to the vehicle manufacturer's certified dealership or a qualified specialist capable of performing the calibration or recalibration if the motor vehicle glass repair shop is not capable of performing or does not intend to perform a calibration or recalibration as described in Item (ii) of this Subparagraph.

(11) Calibrate or recalibrate a motor vehicle's advanced driver assistance system without providing written notice to the insured upon completion as to whether the calibration or recalibration was successful according to the motor vehicle manufacturer's specifications and as to whether the motor vehicle should be taken to the vehicle manufacturer's certified dealership or a qualified specialist if the calibration or recalibration was not successful.

(12)(a) Repair or replace damaged motor vehicle glass without first providing the insured a written, good faith estimate of the fees and costs that are anticipated to be charged to the insured by the motor vehicle glass repair shop.

(b) Notwithstanding Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, a motor vehicle glass repair shop shall provide the insured an itemized invoice and receipt upon payment for the completion of the repair or replacement of the damaged motor vehicle glass.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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C. A motor vehicle glass repair shop that either knowingly, regularly, or consistently engages in any of the acts prohibited by Subsection B of this Section shall be deemed to be engaged or engaging in an unfair trade practice in the business of insurance and shall be in violation of and subject to the penalties provided for in this Part.

D. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit an insurer or producer from engaging in any of the following business practices:

(1) Recommending a motor vehicle glass repair shop to an insured. However, an insured that makes a first-party claim for the repair or replacement of damaged motor vehicle glass pursuant to a motor vehicle insurance policy shall not be required to use a particular motor vehicle glass repair shop or recalibration facility to receive claim payments or other policy benefits.

(2) Providing an explanation to an insured of available coverage or applicable liability limits pursuant to any insurance policy.

(3) Maintaining a network of motor vehicle glass repair shops.

E.(1) An insured shall not, either prior to or after a claim or covered loss, assign, delegate, or transfer, in whole or in part, to any other person the insured's duties, rights, or benefits pursuant to an insurance policy covering the repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass.

(2) Any contract entered into in violation of this Subsection shall be void and unenforceable. However, nothing in this Subsection shall be construed to prohibit an insured from authorizing, directing payment to, or paying a person for services, materials, or any other thing which may be or is covered pursuant to an insurance policy covering the repair or replacement of motor vehicle glass.

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 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 328

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 941
BY REPRESENTATIVES HEBERT, BAYHAM, BEAULLIEU, BILLINGS, BOUDREAUX, CARLSON, EGAN, JACOB LANDRY, MARCELLE, MELERINE, AND WYBLE
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 9:2780(B), (C), (G), (H), and (I) and to enact R.S. 9:2780(J), relative to oilfield indemnification agreements and additional insured coverage; to make technical changes; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 9:2780(B), (C), (G), (H), and (I) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 9:2780(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2780. Certain indemnification agreements invalid; additional insured coverage

* * *

B. Any provision contained in, collateral to, or affecting an agreement pertaining to a well or wells for oil, gas, or water, or drilling for minerals which occur in a solid, liquid, gaseous, or other state, is void and unenforceable to the extent that it purports to or does provide for defense or indemnity, or either, to the indemnitee against loss or liability for damages arising out of or resulting from death or bodily injury to persons, which is caused by or results from the sole or concurrent negligence or fault (strict liability) of the indemnitee, or an agent, employee, or an independent contractor who is directly responsible to the indemnitee.

C. The term "agreement," as it pertains to a well or wells for oil, gas, or water, or drilling for minerals which occur in a solid, liquid, gaseous, or other state, as used in this Section, means any agreement or understanding, written or oral, concerning any operations related to the exploration, development, production, or transportation of oil, gas, or water, or drilling for minerals which occur in a solid, liquid, gaseous, or other state, including but not limited to drilling, deepening, reworking, repairing, improving, testing, treating, perforating, acidizing, logging, conditioning, altering, plugging, or otherwise rendering services in or in connection with any well or wells drilled for the purpose of producing or excavating, constructing, improving, or otherwise rendering services in connection with any mine shaft, drift, or other structure intended for use in the exploration for or production of any mineral, or an agreement to perform any portion of any such work or services or any act collateral thereto, including the furnishing or rental of equipment, incidental transportation, and other goods and services furnished in connection with any such service or operation.

* * *

G. Any provision in any agreement arising out of the operations, services, or activities listed in Subsection C of this Section ~~of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950~~ which requires waivers of subrogation, additional named insured endorsements, or any other form of insurance protection which would frustrate or circumvent the prohibitions of this Section, shall be null and void and of no force and effect.

H. Notwithstanding the prohibitions of Subsection G of this Section, additional insured coverage if procured as the result of an agreement shall be enforceable solely as follows:

(1) A party can seek additional insured coverage for itself or itself and members of its group as defined by its agreement with the named insured after the party seeking additional insured coverage does all of the following:

(a) Makes such a request for an additional insured premium quote by separate written communication to the named insured or the named insured's insurance agent or broker, or both.

(b) Receives a premium quote from the named insured's insurer or its authorized representative.

(c) Makes direct payment to the named insured's insurer or its authorized representative for either additional insured coverage for itself only or for itself and members of its group as defined by its agreement with the named insured.(2)(a) Additional insured coverage for the group shall only be valid and enforceable pursuant to this Subsection when the premium is expressly quoted for group coverage, and the payment by the additional insured is for that corresponding group premium amount.

(b) Once additional insured coverage is actually purchased, the named insured, its insurer, or authorized representative shall notify the additional insured in writing at least thirty days before the next annual premium is due or within seven days of binding the renewal coverage for the named insured, whichever time period is less.

(c) For any policy year where an additional insured either does not make the request pursuant to Subparagraph (1)(a) of this Subsection or does not make payment in the previous policy year pursuant to Subparagraph (1)(c) of this Subsection, the named insured, its insurer, or authorized representative are not required to notify the additional insured in writing at least thirty days before future renewals and, in such instances, the additional insured shall make a new written request for additional insured coverage pursuant to Subparagraph (1)(a) of this Subsection.

(3) When additional insured coverage is obtained pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the additional insured or insureds, and not the named insured, are liable for and responsible for any applicable deductibles or retentions as set forth in the named insured's policy up to a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars, with the named insured responsible to fund the amount of the applicable deductibles or retentions, if any, in excess of one hundred thousand dollars.

(4) Any agreement where the named insured is made to fund all or any part of the deductibles or retentions up to the first one hundred thousand dollars is null and unenforceable and the provisions of this Subsection shall not apply.

(5) Nothing in this Subsection shall in any way be deemed to negate the prohibition against defense and indemnity as set forth in Subsection B of this Section, which defense and indemnity provisions remain null and void and against public policy.

~~H.~~ I. The provisions of this Act do not deprive a person who has transferred land, with a reservation of mineral rights, of the right to secure an indemnity from any lessee, operator, contractor, or other person conducting operations for the exploration or production of minerals in connection with the reserved mineral rights; provided such person does not retain a working interest or an overriding royalty interest convertible to a working interest in any production obtained through activities described in Subsection C of this Section.

~~I.~~ J. This Act shall apply to certain provisions contained in, collateral to or affecting agreements in connection with the illustrative activities listed in Subsection C of this Section which are designed to provide indemnity to the indemnitee for all work performed between the indemnitor and the indemnitee in the future. This specifically includes what is commonly referred to in the oil industry as master or general service agreements or blanket contracts in whatever form and by whatever name. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to a contract providing indemnity to the indemnitee when such contract was executed before the effective date of this Act and which contract governs a specific terminable performance of a specific job or activity listed in Subsection C of this Section.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

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ACT No. 329

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 962
BY REPRESENTATIVE MILLER
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 37:930.1, relative to the administration of medication by a nurse; to provide for administering reconstituted medication; to provide for the authority to administer certain medications; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:930.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§930.1. Administering reconstituted medication

A registered nurse may execute preparation of medication, mixing, reconstitution, or similar acts for immediate administration when carrying out the orders of an authorized prescriber.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

A true copy:
Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 340

HOUSE BILL NO. 1200
BY REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 39:100.201(C), 462.1(A)(3) and (B), 462.2, 462.3, 462.4(A) through (F), and 462.5(A) and to enact R.S. 39:462.1(A)(4), relative to funding and financing certain capital projects; to provide for the Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program; to provide for definitions; to provide for the administration, investment, and disposition of certain monies; to provide for eligibility criteria; to provide for requirements and limitations; to authorize loans for certain eligible infrastructure projects; to provide for the use and investment of monies in the Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program Fund; to provide for the implementation of the program; to authorize the establishment of advisory committees; to provide for the establishment and maintenance of accounts in the fund; to provide with respect to the issuance of bonds and other evidences of indebtedness; to provide for use of monies in the Political Subdivision Federal Grant Assistance Fund; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 39:100.201(C), 462.1(A)(3) and (B), 462.2, 462.3, 462.4(A) through (F), and 462.5(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 39:462.1(A)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§100.201. Political Subdivision Federal Grant Assistance Fund

* * *

C. Monies in the fund shall be used for the administration of a program to assist political subdivisions with competitive federal grant opportunities made pursuant to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, P.L. 117-58 or for the purposes of administering loans or serving as principal for loans made by the State Infrastructure Bank or Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program.

* * *

§462.1. Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program; purposes

A. The legislature finds that:

* * *

(3) There is a critical need to increase investment in the development and maintenance of Louisiana's physical infrastructure, including facilities related to water, energy, and hazard mitigation in order to grow the economy and sustain the state's vital infrastructure.

~~(3)~~ (4) The most effective way of accomplishing the goal of providing for local infrastructure project financing ~~and for preservation of~~ while preserving the state fisc and protecting taxpayers over the long term is to establish a low-interest-rate revolving loan fund to be available for local infrastructure projects and reinvesting repayments into future infrastructure projects as ~~to provide~~ an alternative means to fund appropriate local infrastructure projects that would otherwise compete with scarce state funding for state projects.

B. To continue to provide required funding for the planning, design, construction, and maintenance connected with needed infrastructure projects, it is the purpose of this Chapter to provide for the establishment and administration of a program to make loans from a revolving loan fund to assist ~~eligible local governments~~ in funding eligible infrastructure projects and enter into cooperative endeavor agreements and interstate compacts as may be necessary and proper to fulfill the purposes of this Chapter.

§462.2. Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program; definitions

The following terms as used in this Chapter shall have the following meanings:

(1) ~~"Approved infrastructure program" means a program through which an eligible infrastructure project may be funded including but not limited to the following programs:~~

~~(a) State Capital Outlay Budget Program as provided in R.S. 39:101 et seq., administered by the division of administration, office of facility planning and control.~~

~~(b) Clean Water State Revolving Fund established pursuant to R.S. 30:2301 et seq.~~

~~(c) Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund established pursuant to R.S. 40:2821 et seq.~~

~~(2)~~ "Certifying department" means a state department or agency with authority to ~~administer and~~ permit or approve an eligible infrastructure project in accordance with laws and regulations governing the respective ~~approved infrastructure program~~ eligible infrastructure program. The State Bond Commission ~~is~~ shall be the certifying department for emergency requests.

~~(3)~~ (2) "Commission" means the State Bond Commission.

~~(4)~~ (3) "Department" means the Department of the Treasury.

~~(5)~~ (4) "Eligible infrastructure project" or "project" means ~~a plan or proposal approved by the respective certifying department which would require or use a local match or other required local contribution or require funding for eligible infrastructure project costs that can be provided by the commission. "Eligible infrastructure project" includes an emergency request~~ activities undertaken to plan, design, construct, repair, maintain, or improve any of the following facilities or infrastructure located within a local governmental subdivision with a population of less than fifty thousand according to the latest federal decennial census for the benefit of the public, and which have been recommended, permitted, or approved by the applicable certifying department:

(a) Facilities or infrastructure for the treatment or distribution of drinking water, the treatment of wastewater, and drainage.

(b) Facilities or infrastructure relating to energy production, transmission, or distribution, including projects for grid modernization and resilience.

(c) Activities intended to mitigate hazards to existing facilities or infrastructure, or for the safety, health, and welfare of the people of Louisiana, including those activities intended to reduce or eliminate damage caused by natural disasters, improve or facilitate recovery, or protect critical services.

(d) Activities at other public facilities or infrastructure intended to enhance economic development, public safety, or quality of life.

(e) Emergency requests, as defined in this Section.

~~(6)~~ (5) "Emergency request" means a project ~~request submitted by a local government to~~ recommended, permitted, or approved by a certifying department ~~between legislative sessions~~ that is essential to alleviate conditions that are hazardous to life, health, or property. "Emergency request" includes but is not limited to ~~funding for a project that has~~ projects having an anticipated useful life of less than twenty years and a value or cost of less than ~~fifty thousand dollars and that would not otherwise qualify for funding in an approved infrastructure program~~ one hundred fifty thousand dollars for a local governmental subdivision with a population of fifteen thousand or less according to the latest federal decennial census and a value or cost of less than the contract limit provided for in R.S. 38:2212(C)(1) for a local governmental subdivision with a population of more than fifteen thousand persons but less than or equal to fifty thousand persons according to the latest federal decennial census.

~~(7)~~ (6) "Loan" means the ~~loan from the commission to the local government~~ provision of funding to a qualified borrower for all or part of the costs of an eligible infrastructure project in exchange for corresponding obligations, including repayment, owed by the qualified borrower to the lender, evidenced by a bond, note, or other evidence of indebtedness as provided in this Chapter. A loan may include any necessary matching funds required for the project. ~~The maximum amount of a loan that may be funded through the revolving loan fund is one million five hundred thousand dollars.~~

~~(8)~~ (7) "Local governmental subdivision" for purposes of this Chapter means a local governmental subdivision as defined in Article VI, Section 44 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

(8) "Office" means the office of rural development within the office of the governor.

(9) ~~"Local" or "local government"~~ "Political subdivision" for purposes of this Chapter means a political subdivision as defined in Article VI, Section 44 of the Constitution of Louisiana ~~which has a population of less than fifteen thousand according to the latest federal decennial census. A local government shall be limited to one loan from the revolving loan fund until the loan is paid in full~~.

(10) "Qualified borrower" means any of the following:

(a) A political subdivision authorized to undertake, construct, operate, or own an eligible infrastructure project.

(b) Any private entity, including a concessionaire or special purpose entity, participating in an eligible infrastructure project with the approval or consent of the relevant regulatory or technical agencies, including but not limited to participants in a public-private partnership, to the extent permitted by applicable law, provided that the office determines that the assistance is adequately secured.

~~(9)~~ (11) "Revolving loan fund" means the Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program Fund established in R.S. 39:462.3.

§462.3. Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program Fund

A. There is hereby established a revolving loan fund in the state treasury to be known as the "Louisiana Rural Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program Fund", hereinafter referred to in this Chapter as the "fund", which shall be maintained and operated by the ~~department~~ office. The source of monies deposited in and credited to the fund shall be all grants, gifts, and donations received by the state for the purpose of ~~funding~~ capitalizing the fund; any money appropriated by the legislature to the fund; ~~the repayment~~ repayments of principal of and interest on loans and other obligations made to ~~local governments~~ qualified borrowers financed from the fund; administrative fees; and other revenues as may be provided by law.

B. Money in the fund shall be invested in a separate fund by the state treasurer in the same manner as money in the state general fund. Interest earned on the investment of the money in the fund shall be credited to the fund after compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund. All unexpended and unencumbered money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain in the fund.

C. The repayment of principal of and interest on loans and other obligations made to ~~local governments~~ qualified borrowers financed from the fund shall be deposited into the fund and may be used to finance loans and obligations for projects of ~~other local governments~~ qualified borrowers if reserves for expenditures for the administration of the fund that the ~~department~~ office deems necessary and prudent are retained in the fund.

D. The ~~department~~ office may, by suit, action, mandamus, or other

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

proceedings, protect and enforce any covenant relating to and the security provided in connection with any indebtedness issued pursuant to this Chapter and may, by suit, action, mandamus, or other proceedings, enforce and compel performance of all duties required to be performed by ~~the governing body and officials of~~ any qualified borrower and in any proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness.

E. The ~~department~~ office shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, as are necessary, for the following:

(1) To adopt a schedule of reasonable fees and charges to pay for the costs of administering the fund.

(2) To respond to emergency requests and to consider loan applications for eligible emergency projects, ~~that have~~ including projects with an anticipated useful life of less than twenty years and a value or cost of less than ~~fifty thousand dollars.~~ the contract limit provided for in R.S. 38:2212(C)(1).

(3) Establish program rules and underwriting standards pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, including risk management policies, portfolio concentration limits, and procedures for default and remedies. The procedures may also include stress testing requirements and loss-reserve requirements consistent with those applicable to commercial banks.

~~(3)~~ (4) To implement the provisions of this Chapter.

F. The ~~department~~ office may enter into contracts and other agreements in connection with the operation of the fund or enter into contracts or agreements to implement the provisions of this Chapter including but not limited to entering into cooperative endeavor agreements with third parties.

G. The office may establish advisory committees, including a technical review committee comprised of representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Conservation and Energy, the Department of the Treasury, the Louisiana Department of Health, and Louisiana Economic Development, to provide recommendations on project eligibility, readiness for advancement, potential economic development benefits, and environmental compliance.

H. The office shall establish and maintain accounts in the fund sufficient to do all of the following:

(1) Segregate funds by program requirements and prohibit commingling.

(2) Segregate state and local funds by infrastructure sector as necessary to meet statutory, bond, or program conditions.

(3) Establish reserve accounts, debt service accounts, credit risk accounts, and other accounts as needed for prudent financial management and leveraging.

§462.4. Revolving loan fund; eligibility requirements; loans for eligible infrastructure projects; authorizing and issuing debt; security; interest rates; tax exemption

A.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, and in addition to the authority to lend or borrow money or incur or guarantee indebtedness provided by any other provision of law, sums on deposit in and credited to the fund may be loaned to local governments for use in connection with eligible infrastructure projects. ~~However, this Section shall not be deemed to be the exclusive authority under which a local government may borrow money or incur indebtedness.~~ The granting of a loan to any political subdivision or qualified borrower pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter shall be subject to approval by the commission.

(2) In order for a ~~local government~~ political subdivision to be eligible for a loan pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter, ~~the local government~~ it shall comply with all of the following:

(a) The ~~local government~~ political subdivision shall demonstrate that it has financial resources and a financial strategy for the duration of the lifecycle of the project to ensure that the project is sufficiently funded, maintained, and replaced as needed.

(b) The ~~local government~~ political subdivision shall be in good standing and comply with the audit requirements provided for in R.S. 24:513 at the time that the ~~local government~~ political subdivision applies for and receives the loan as well as during the duration of the term of the loan.

(3) ~~A local government is limited to one loan from the revolving loan fund; however, once all of the principal, interest, and any other fees and obligations due under the loan agreement are paid in full, the local government may apply for a new loan from the revolving loan fund.~~ If the monies in the fund are sufficient to satisfy the demand for loans to qualified borrowers, preference shall be given to qualified borrowers who have no outstanding loans from the program.

(4) No loan shall be made nor debt evidencing the loan be issued or incurred without the approval of the commission.

B. All bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness of any ~~local government~~ qualified borrower issued ~~to represent~~ in connection with a loan shall ~~be authorized and issued pursuant to~~ include evidence of the qualified borrower's authority to enter into the transaction as follows:

(1) For political subdivisions, a resolution or ordinance of the governing authority of that entity, ~~hereinafter referred to collectively as "resolution". The resolution shall prescribe~~ prescribing the ~~form and details thereof, including the~~ terms, security for, manner of execution, repayment schedule, and redemption features ~~thereof, and the~~ of the indebtedness. The resolution may provide that an officer of the entity may execute ~~in connection with the obligation~~ any related contract, including but not limited to a credit enhancement device, indenture of trust, loan agreement, pledge agreement, or other agreement or contract needed to accomplish the purposes for which the evidence of indebtedness is given~~, in substantially the form referenced in the resolution, but which final executed credit enhancement device, indenture of trust, loan agreement, pledge agreement, or other contract or agreement may contain changes, additions, and deletions as shall in the sole opinion of the executing officer be appropriate under the circumstances~~. The resolution shall include a statement as to the maximum principal amount of any obligation; the maximum interest rate to be incurred or borne by the obligation or guaranteed by the obligation; the maximum redemption premium, if any; and the maximum term in years for the obligation, guarantee, or pledge.

(2) For private entities, evidence of authorization to enter into a binding commitment for repayment accompanied by evidence of the recommendation, permitting, or approval of the project by a certifying department. Written evidence of authority of the person binding the private entity shall be provided.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a ~~local government~~ political subdivision, upon entering into a loan as provided in this Chapter, may dedicate and pledge a portion of any revenues it has available to be pledged and dedicated, including but not limited to revenues from the general revenue fund, sales taxes, sewer user fees, assessments, parcel fees, or ad valorem property taxes, for a sufficient term to repay the principal of, interest on, and any premium, administrative fee, or other fee or cost incurred in connection with the loan.

D. Any evidence of indebtedness authorized pursuant to this Chapter shall bear a rate or rates of interest that shall not exceed the rate or rates set forth in the resolution authorizing and providing for the issuance thereof. Any rate or rates of interest may be fixed, variable, or adjustable rates.

E. The general laws of the state governing fully registered securities of public entities shall be applicable to the bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued pursuant to this Chapter.

F. A resolution of a political subdivision authorizing a loan pursuant to this Section shall be published once in the political subdivision's official journal or in a newspaper of general circulation ~~in the parish or local government entity incurring the loan~~ within the boundaries of the local governmental subdivision where the project is located. It shall not be necessary to publish exhibits to the resolution, but the exhibits shall be made available for public inspection at the offices of the ~~governing authority of the parish, municipality, or other~~ political subdivision at reasonable times, and notice of the availability of these documents shall be stated in the publication ~~within the official journal or newspaper of general circulation in the parish or local government entity incurring~~ of the resolution authorizing the loan. For a period of thirty days after the date of publication, any person in interest may contest the legality of the resolution authorizing the ~~evidence of indebtedness or other~~ loan and any provision thereof made for the security and payment of the debt. After the thirty-day period, no one shall have any cause or right of action to contest the regularity, formality, legality, or effectiveness of the resolution ~~and~~ or the provisions thereof, or of the bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness ~~or other loan, or to provide for the payment of the debt, or the legality thereof, and all of the provisions of the resolution and evidence of indebtedness shall be conclusively presumed valid, and no court shall have authority or jurisdiction to inquire into the matter~~ securing the loan.

* * *

§462.5. General power to issue and incur debt; guarantees of the debt of other entities

A. The commission, on behalf of the state, may issue, incur, and deliver debt evidenced by bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness, payable from or secured by sums deposited in, credited to, or to be received by the commission in order to provide monies for deposit into the fund. The commission may undertake and issue and deliver evidences of its guarantee of the debt of other entities and may enter into and execute pledges of the sums deposited in, credited to, or to be received by the commission, including payments pursuant to letters of credit, to secure the debt or performance of obligations of a ~~local government~~ qualified borrower for a project. Bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness, guarantees, and pledges issued and delivered pursuant to this authority shall constitute special and limited obligations of the commission and shall not be secured by the full faith and credit of the state or any source of revenue of the state other than those sums on deposit in or credited to the revolving loan fund, or to be received by the commission, including payments to be made pursuant to letters of credit. Debt issued pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter shall be deemed to be in compliance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 14 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

* * *

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 341

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 1232 (Substitute for House Bill No. 647 by Representative Bourriaque)

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOURRIAQUE

AN ACT

* As it appears in the enrolled bill

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

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:3471(6) and (7), 3472(A) and (D), 3473, 3475(A), 3477(A) and (D), and 3478 and to repeal R.S. 34:3474, relative to waterways; to provide for the Waterway Assistance Program and Fund; to provide for timelines for submitting applications for funding of any waterway projects by a governmental entity; to provide for an annual basis for application submissions; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 34:3471(6) and (7), 3472(A) and (D), 3473, 3475(A), 3477(A) and (D), and 3478 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3471. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following definitions shall apply:

* * *

(6) "Waterway ~~dredging and deepening priority program~~ Assistance Program" means the ~~priority list of~~ projects submitted ~~by~~ to the office and selected and approved by the joint committee pursuant to this Chapter.

(7) "Waterway project" means a ~~program~~ project, either new or continuing, that is planned and implemented with the primary goal of dredging and deepening waterways in the state to include cost share projects with the federal government and construction and maintenance costs associated with dredging and disposing of dredged material.

§3472. Methodology for ~~dredging and deepening project~~ Waterway Assistance Program evaluation

A.(1) Applications for funding of any waterway project may be submitted by any governmental entity, including but not limited to a parish, municipality, port authority, or levee district ~~on a quarterly basis, except as provided in R.S. 34:3476~~. Applications shall be submitted to the office no later than the first of ~~March, June,~~ September~~, and December~~ of each calendar year ~~for consideration of funding or funding obligation authority in the following fiscal years~~. Applications submitted in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter shall be subject to the provisions of R.S. 39:101 through 128. Information to be provided in the application shall include but not be limited to the following:

(a) Description of the project and demonstration of immediate need for the project.

(b) Preliminary project design and cost estimate.

(c) Description of project area.

(2) No project shall be considered without any and all local, state, and federal permits obtained and required by the department, as determined per project, pursuant to applicable law.

~~(2)~~ (3) Project applications shall not be subject to formal review and evaluation until the information required in the application has been submitted.

* * *

D. ~~The office may contract for any of the duties associated with the development of the waterway dredging and deepening priority program, including but not limited to the development, review, and evaluation of plans and specifications, and the development of the waterway dredging and deepening priority program list. However, development of and authority over the final determination of the waterway dredging and deepening priority list shall remain with the department and the joint committee as provided in this Chapter.~~ The project evaluation process shall be submitted by the office for approval by the joint committee no later than September 1, 2026.

* * *

§3473. ~~Priority list~~ List of projects; public hearings; final program

~~Each quarter, the~~ The office shall prepare and furnish to the joint committee a ~~prioritized~~ list of qualifying projects based on the applications received by the office. ~~during that quarter. The joint committee shall receive the prioritized list of projects from the office for each of the first three quarters of the year, and shall call a public hearing within thirty days of receiving the list in order to receive public testimony regarding any project on the list. At such hearing, the joint committee shall vote to either accept, reject, or modify the list. Each quarter, the office shall reprioritize the list of projects to reflect the cumulative list of projects recommended by the office. After application recommendations for the last quarter are made by the office, the office shall submit the final waterway dredging and deepening priority program for the ensuing fiscal year to the joint committee for approval. Prior to the convening of the regular session of the legislature, the~~ The joint committee shall hold a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the final program for the ~~ensuing~~ current fiscal year. ~~Prior to such hearing, the office shall publish the appropriate official notice on the department's website. The final program shall be based upon the anticipated revenues to be appropriated by the legislature or other funding obligation authority and the projects shall be listed in order of priority.~~ Upon review of eligible projects, the joint committee shall establish a list based on the amount appropriated to the program established by the legislature. When this ~~final construction program~~ list is presented to the legislature for ~~funding or~~ funding obligation authority ~~for the ensuing fiscal year~~, the legislature shall not add any projects to this final construction program. Any project ~~recommended by the office and approved~~ considered by the joint committee for which funds are unavailable in the fiscal year but for which it was approved shall remain on the ~~prioritized~~ list of projects and shall not be removed unless voted on by the joint committee the following year ~~be carried forward to the next fiscal year~~.§3475. Projects undertaken by the office

A. After adoption of the office's recommendations by the joint committee, the approved list of projects shall be forwarded to the office for implementation. The approved list shall be implemented by the office by the use of funds appropriated, funding obligation authority, or pursuant to the cash management program as provided by R.S. 48:251(D). Funding or funding obligation authority shall be allocated to projects in accordance with the ~~prioritized~~ list of projects approved by the joint committee. Funding obligation authority may be granted or authorized for a project from funds appropriated or obligated for another project or projects within the Waterway ~~Dredging and Deepening Priority~~ Assistance Program provided that such authority does not impede ~~such~~ any project or projects. ~~Such~~ The funding obligation authority shall be extinguished for a project at such time as funds are made available for obligation for the project. The office shall not delete, add, or substitute any projects for those approved by the joint committee, except as provided in R.S. 34:3476.

* * *

§3477. Allocation, reallocation of funds; deposit to ~~Dredging and Deepening~~ Waterway Assistance Fund

A. The ~~Dredging and Deepening~~ Waterway Assistance Fund is hereby created within the state treasury and shall be a source of state funds in addition to capital outlay projects, the general fund, and other sources, provided for any waterway project on the ~~priority~~ list approved pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.

* * *

D. Any monies allocated for any project not needed for said project may be reallocated for the completion of any other project or projects specified. Any monies not needed for the completion of said projects shall be deposited in and credited to the ~~Dredging and Deepening~~ Waterway Assistance Fund.

* * *

§3478. Preparation of plans and specifications; letting of bids for construction; supervision of construction

The ~~port~~ applying governing authority shall be responsible for the preparation of plans and specifications for their respective project. The ~~port~~ applying governing authority shall also be responsible for the letting of bids~~, the public advertising,~~ and the supervision of work for all projects, all in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

Section 2. R.S. 34:3474 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry
Secretary of State

ACT No. 342

HOUSE BILL NO. 1238 (Substitute for House Bill No. 422 by Representative McMakin)
BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN
AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 14:35(B) and 38(B) and to enact Part III of Chapter 3 of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 23:271 through 274, relative to workplace violence in retail and food service establishments; to provide a short title; to provide definitions; to prohibit workplace violence against an employee of a regulated establishment; to provide enhanced penalties for offenders who commit certain crimes against an employee of a regulated establishment; to provide for signage; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:35(B) and 38(B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§35. Simple battery

* * *

B.(1) Whoever commits a simple battery shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

(2) Whoever commits a simple battery against an employee of a regulated establishment shall be fined not more than two thousand dollars or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than two years, or both.

* * *

§38. Simple assault

* * *

B.(1) Whoever commits a simple assault shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not more than ninety days, or both.

(2) Whoever commits a simple assault against an employee of a regulated establishment shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Section 2. Part III of Chapter 3 of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 23:271 through 274, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

PART III. THE LOUISIANA BEHIND THE COUNTER PROTECTION ACT

§271. Short title

This Part shall be known and may be cited as the "Louisiana Behind the Counter Protection Act".

§272. Definitions

As used in this Part, the following terms have the meanings ascribed to them:

(1) "Department" means Louisiana Works.

(2) "Employee" means an employee who engages in duties at or behind a checkout station, service counter, drive-through window, customer service

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desk, or similar place or structure utilized as the point of transaction for an employee and a customer.

(3) "Workplace violence" means any act of violence or credible threat of violence, including but not limited to assault, battery, robbery, intimidation, verbal abuse, threats with a weapon, or any conduct that places an employee in reasonable fear of physical harm or is directed at an employee while he is performing his duties at a regulated establishment.

§273. Prohibition against workplace violence; penalties

No person shall commit the offense of workplace violence against an employee of a regulated establishment. Whoever commits the offense of workplace violence against an employee of a regulated establishment shall be charged with any of the following crimes as appropriate:

(1) Simple assault as defined in R.S. 14:38(B)(2).

(2) Simple battery as defined in R.S. 14:35(B)(2).

§274. Signage

A. A regulated establishment may display at its premises at least one sign that contains the following statement in forty-eight point boldface font:

"WARNING: Workplace violence against an employee is a crime and will not be tolerated. Such acts may result in arrest and criminal conviction under Louisiana law."

B. The department shall prescribe and furnish a sign that conforms with the specifications provided for in Subsection A of this Section. The department shall make the sign readily accessible for or distribute the sign to a regulated establishment.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

- - - - - - - -

ACT No. 343

- - -

HOUSE BILL NO. 1250 (Substitute for House Bill No. 1099 by Representative McFarland)

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 9:2800.31, relative to aerospace flight activities; to provide for legislative intent and purpose; to provide for definitions; to provide relative to motions to strike; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 9:2800.31 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2800.31. Aerospace flight entities; motion to strike; legislative findings

A.(1) The legislature finds and declares that aerospace flight activities are a public issue.

(2) The legislature finds and further declares that aerospace flight activities are a sector of identified state importance as it facilitates the transport of goods or persons. Aerospace flight activities are licensed, regulated, and supervised by the Federal Aviation Administration under a comprehensive federal scheme that includes informed-consent and reciprocal-waiver requirements. The continued development of aerospace flight activities in this state advances public welfare, economic development, and workforce investment.

(3) It is the intent of this legislation that claims arising from aerospace flight activities be capable of early resolution without the imposition of discovery costs or other litigation expenses that would unreasonably burden lawfully licensed aerospace flight entities and the public entities that facilitate their operations.

B. For purposes of this Section, the following definitions apply:(1) "Aerospace flight activities" mean any act or activity related to the research, development, testing, manufacture, preparation, launch, operation, reentry, descent, landing, or post-landing recovery of an aeronautic or astronautic launch vehicle, craft, payload, or related equipment, including but not limited to, fueling, integration, conditioning, and transporting, including but not limited to the transport of goods or persons, and any associated ground support operations whether conducted on-site or involving overflight.

(2) "Aerospace flight entity" means any person, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or any other entity that conducts aerospace flight activities and, to the extent required by federal law, holds or operates anywhere under a valid Federal Aviation Administration license, experimental permit, or other authorization for the relevant activities requiring such a license. This also includes any employee, officer, director, agent, contractor, manufacturer, supplier, or vendor of such entity, any owner or lessor of immovable property used for aerospace flight activities, and any political subdivision or public entity with a contractual or operational relationship facilitating such activities.

C.(1) A cause of action against an aerospace flight entity arising from any act of the aerospace flight entity in connection with a public issue shall be subject to a special motion to strike, unless the court determines that the plaintiff has established a probability of success on the claim.

(2) In making its determination, the court shall consider the pleadings and supporting and opposing affidavits stating the facts upon which the liability or defense is based.

(3) If the court determines that the plaintiff has established a probability of success on the claim, that determination shall be admissible in evidence at any later stage of the proceeding.

D. In any action subject to Subsection C of this Section, a prevailing party on a special motion to strike shall be awarded reasonable attorney fees and costs.

E.(1) The special motion to strike may be filed within ninety days of service of the petition, or in the court's discretion, at any later time upon terms the court deems proper.

(2) If the plaintiff voluntarily dismisses the action prior to the running of the delays for filing an answer, the aerospace flight entity shall retain the right to file a special motion to strike within the delays provided by Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, and the motion shall be heard pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

(3) The motion shall be noticed for hearing not more than thirty days after service unless the docket conditions of the court require a later hearing.

F. All discovery proceedings in the action shall be stayed upon the filing of a notice of motion made pursuant to this Section. The stay of discovery shall remain in effect until notice of entry of the order ruling on the motion. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, the court, on noticed motion and for good cause shown, may order that specified discovery be conducted.

G. This Section does not apply to any enforcement action brought on behalf of this state by the attorney general, district attorney, or city attorney acting as a public prosecutor.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2026.

A true copy:

Nancy Landry

Secretary of State

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