



Session Wrap

2020 Regular and First Extraordinary Sessions

Louisiana Legislature



House Legislative Services
Louisiana House of
Representatives

July 20, 2020

All included legislation completed the legislative process.
Photo courtesy of Dustin Sutton

2020 RS and ES, the numbers



2020 Regular Session (RS)

- Even-numbered years are “general” sessions, no matters involving state taxes or tax credits can be heard
- Convened March 9, Adjourned June 1
- Instruments filed:
 - 1,389 bills (871 House Bills/518 Senate Bills)
 - 50 constitutional amendments
 - 325 resolutions and study requests

2020 Extraordinary Session (ES)

- “Called” by [Proclamation](#) of the Presiding Officers, with majority support of both chambers, only matters falling within the 41 subjects listed in the call can be heard
- Convened June 1, Adjourned June 30
- Instruments filed:
 - 101 bills (72 House Bills/29 Senate Bills)
 - 8 constitutional amendments
 - 190 resolutions and study requests

COVID-19 and The Public Health Emergency

The governor announced the first "presumptive positive" case of COVID-19 in his State of the State address to the legislature on March 9th, the first day of the Regular Session. Two days later, the governor issued [Proclamation No. 25 JBE 2020](#), declaring a public health emergency in Louisiana.

The legislature [announced a temporary adjournment](#) of the Regular Session from March 16th through March 31st. After briefly meeting on March 31st to introduce bills before the constitutionally mandated deadline, each chamber adjourned until further notice.

COVID-19 and the extraordinary measures taken to prevent excessive strain on the state's health care system raised many questions that had no clear, equitable remedies in Louisiana law. The legislature reconvened on May 4th and acted to provide remedies for many of the immediate concerns raised by the public health emergency.

The lasting impact of this event is not yet known and will be studied for years to come. However, many measures addressing future states of emergency were passed in order to reduce the type of widespread uncertainty experienced during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

COVID-19 Response

Education

- [HB 870](#) and [SB 481](#) modify TOPS eligibility, including testing deadlines, academic progress, and home study requirements for students affected by COVID-19.
- [SB 481](#) and [SCR 23](#) suspend K-12 education requirements for schools, teachers, and students, including attendance, instructional time, teacher evaluations, and student assessments.

Health Insurance

- [SB 426](#) requires coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing and delays payment of any patient cost-share until 2023.

Civil & Criminal Deadlines

- [HB 805](#) suspends prescriptive and peremptive periods, and other legal deadlines from March 17, 2020, through July 5, 2020, while maintaining the right to enforce any suspended claim expiring on July 6, 2020; otherwise ratifies suspensions contained in the governor's proclamations.
- [HB 421](#) provides for interruption and extension of bail enforcement time periods.

COVID-19 Response

Liability Limits

- The following groups are not liable for damages related to COVID-19 exposure as long as the relevant institutional and/or public health guidelines are followed. This immunity does not apply to any acts of gross negligence or some form of intentional misconduct.
 - Businesses and public entities in performance of business operations ([HB 826](#), [SB 435](#))
 - Event organizers ([HB 826](#))
 - Personal protective equipment makers & providers ([HB 826](#))
 - Restaurants ([SB 508](#))
 - K-12 schools and postsecondary institutions ([HB 59\(ES\)](#))

Notarization

- [HB 122](#) ratifies the governor's authorization of remote electronic notarial transactions executed during the public health emergency.

Declared Emergencies

Liability Limit ([SB 491](#))

- There shall be no liability for damages resulting from gratuitous or voluntary provision of emergency efforts or products during a declared state of emergency, unless actions are taken with gross negligence or willful misconduct.

Legal Proceedings

- Suspensions of law – During a declared emergency/disaster, the Supreme Court shall have the authority to order the suspension of certain criminal legal deadlines for up to 30 days at a time ([HB 759](#)) and civil prescriptive and preemptive periods for up to 90 days at a time ([HB 5 \(ES\)](#)).
- Court closures ([HB 404](#)) – Official public notice can now be provided through an electronic bulletin board located on a centralized online portal for clerks of court.

Declared Emergencies

Firearms

- [HB 746](#) provides that a person who is otherwise legally allowed to possess firearms may carry concealed firearms during a mandatory evacuation in a declared emergency.
- [HB 781](#) provides that firearms and ammunition manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, suppliers, and retailers and shooting ranges are “essential businesses” whose operations shall not be restricted during a declared state of emergency.

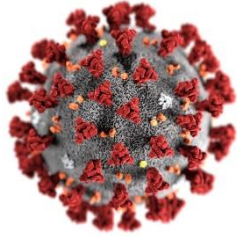
Price Gouging ([HB 763](#))

- During a declared emergency related to an abnormal economic disruption, excessive price increases for certain goods shall be prohibited.

Unemployment Compensation ([HB 62 \(ES\)](#))

- Requires the withholding of state income tax from unemployment compensation benefits.

COVID-19 Relief



[SB 189](#) and [HB 9 \(ES\)](#) establish the Coronavirus Local Recovery Allocation Program and the Louisiana Main Street Recovery Program to provide economic support to local governments and small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Main Street Recovery Program

- \$275* million total for program – \$40 million designated for businesses owned by minorities, women, and veterans
- Small business grants up to \$15,000
- Administered by the State Treasurer
- Among criteria for eligibility:
 - domiciled in Louisiana
 - suffered an interruption of business
 - no more than 50 full-time employees
 - does not exist for the purpose of advancing partisan political activities

Coronavirus Local Recovery Allocation Program

- \$530* million total for program
- Reimbursement to local governments for COVID-19 expenditures
- Administered through the Division of Administration (DOA) and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)

*Provided [HB 70 \(ES\)](#), regarding the Critical Infrastructure Workers program, becomes law, the rebate will be funded by transfers of \$25M each from the Main Street and Local Recovery Programs. For purposes of this slide, those funds have already been removed from the program totals, above.

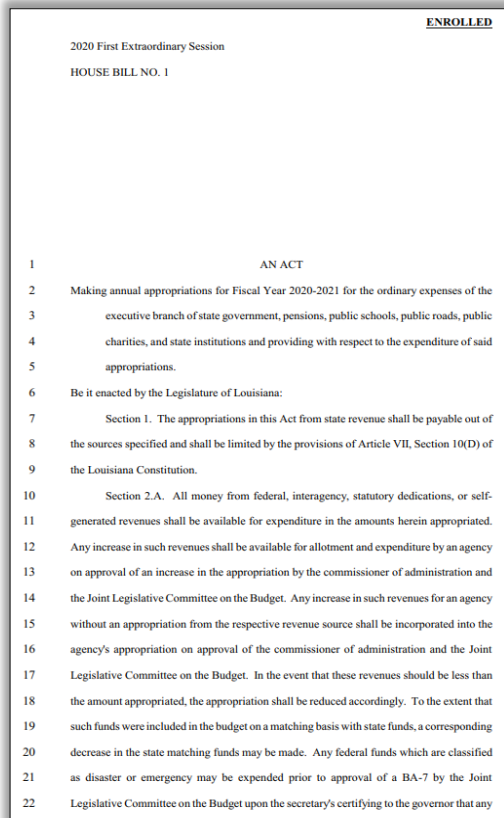
Critical Infrastructure Workers Rebate



[HB 70 \(ES\)](#) creates a one-time hazard pay rebate of \$250 for essential critical infrastructure workers. Those eligible for the rebate include:

- Nurses, assistants, aides, medical residents, pharmacy staff, phlebotomists, respiratory therapists, and workers providing direct patient care in inpatient and outpatient dialysis facilities;
- Housekeeping, laundry services, food services, and waste management personnel in hospitals and healthcare facilities;
- Long-term care facility personnel, outpatient care workers, home care workers, personal assistance providers, home health providers, home delivered meal providers, childcare service providers;
- Emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, fire and rescue personnel, law enforcement personnel, public health epidemiologists;
- Bus drivers; retail fuel center personnel; sanitation personnel; residential, commercial, and industrial solid waste and hazardous waste removal personnel; storage and disposal personnel;
- Grocery store, convenience store, and food assistance program personnel;
- Mortuary service providers; and
- Veterinary service staff.

Balanced State Budget, FY 2020-2021



Appropriation Bills

- The General Appropriation Bill, [HB 1 \(ES\)](#), contains \$34.7B for the ordinary operating expenditures of the executive branch for FY 2020-2021, a \$4.6B increase over FY 2019-2020.

•\$34.7B General Appropriations

- \$17.5B in federal funds
 - \$8.5B in state general funds
 - \$4.0B in statutory dedications
 - \$3.1B in fees and self-generated revenues
 - \$1.6B in interagency transfers
- When added to all other funds, including appropriations for the operation of the judiciary and the legislature, monetary judgments, and ancillary funding, the total amount of appropriations for FY 2020-2021 is \$40.1B.

Major Drivers of the FY21 Budget Increase

Description	Increase Amount
Increased Medicaid Expenditures due to COVID-19	\$1,192,120,039
Hospital Money Follows the Patient Model	\$1,057,381,682
Federal CARES Act Funding in response to COVID-19	\$523,707,108
Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund to state agencies	\$518,108,028
Local Recovery Allocation Program	\$427,651,310
Main Street Recovery Fund	\$275,000,000
\$250 payments for essential critical infrastructure workers	\$50,000,000

Legislature Addressing Budget Shortfall

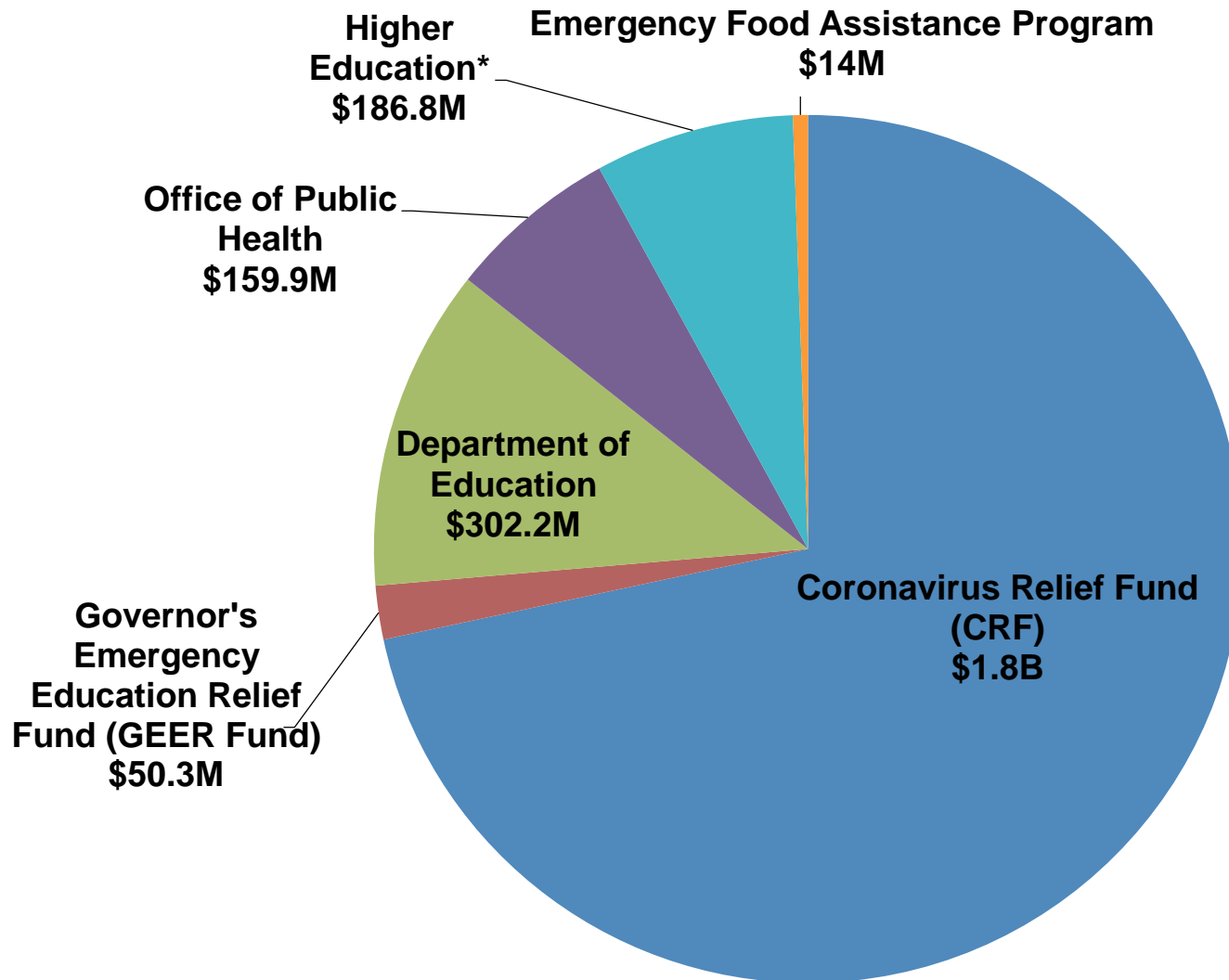
Revenue Declines

- The Revenue Estimating Conference met on May 11, 2020, and recognized revenue declines in Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021.
 - **Fiscal Year 2020 – (\$132 million)**
 - **Fiscal Year 2021 – (\$900 million)**

Solutions to Shortfall

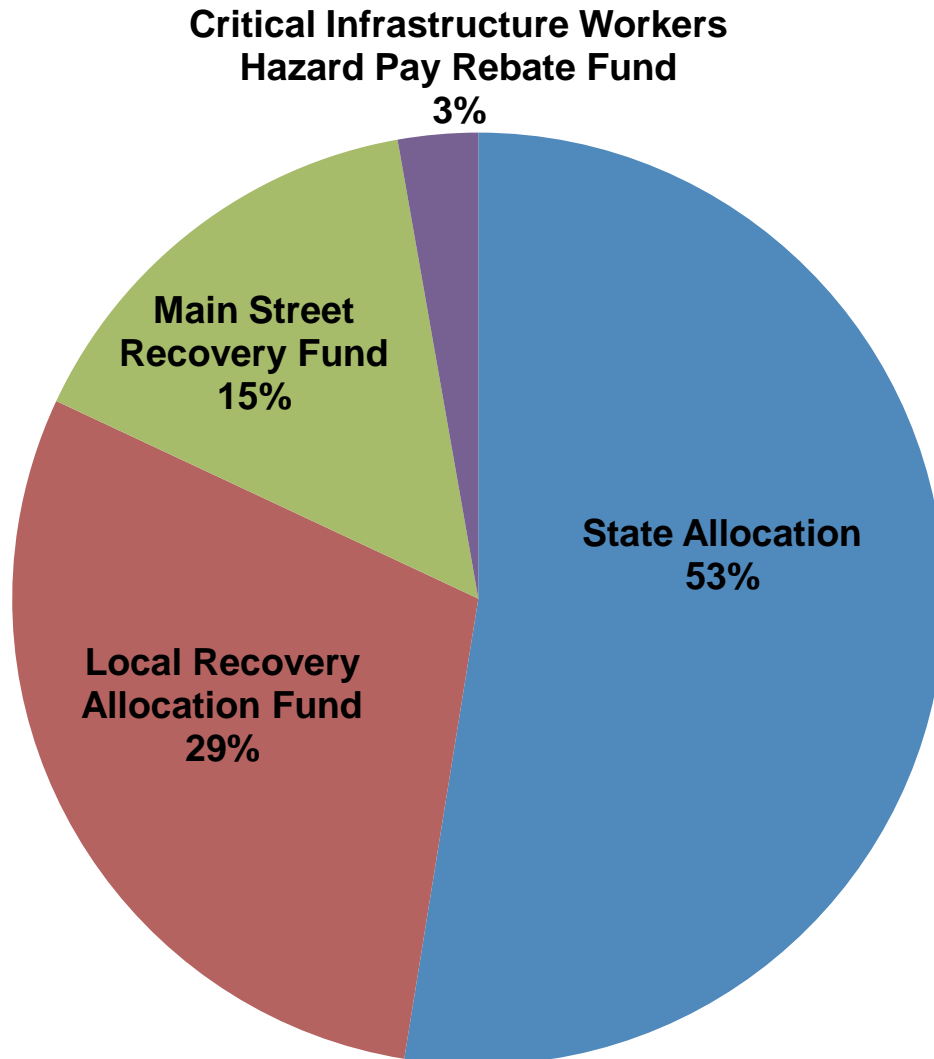
- Replacing State General Fund with federal recovery funds
- Removing enhancements in original budget
- Reductions to agency budgets
- Moving savings from Medicaid from FY2020 into FY2021
- Using \$90 million of Budget Stabilization Funds (Rainy Day)

CARES Act Funding to Louisiana



*Higher Education CARES Act funding is not included in the operating budget

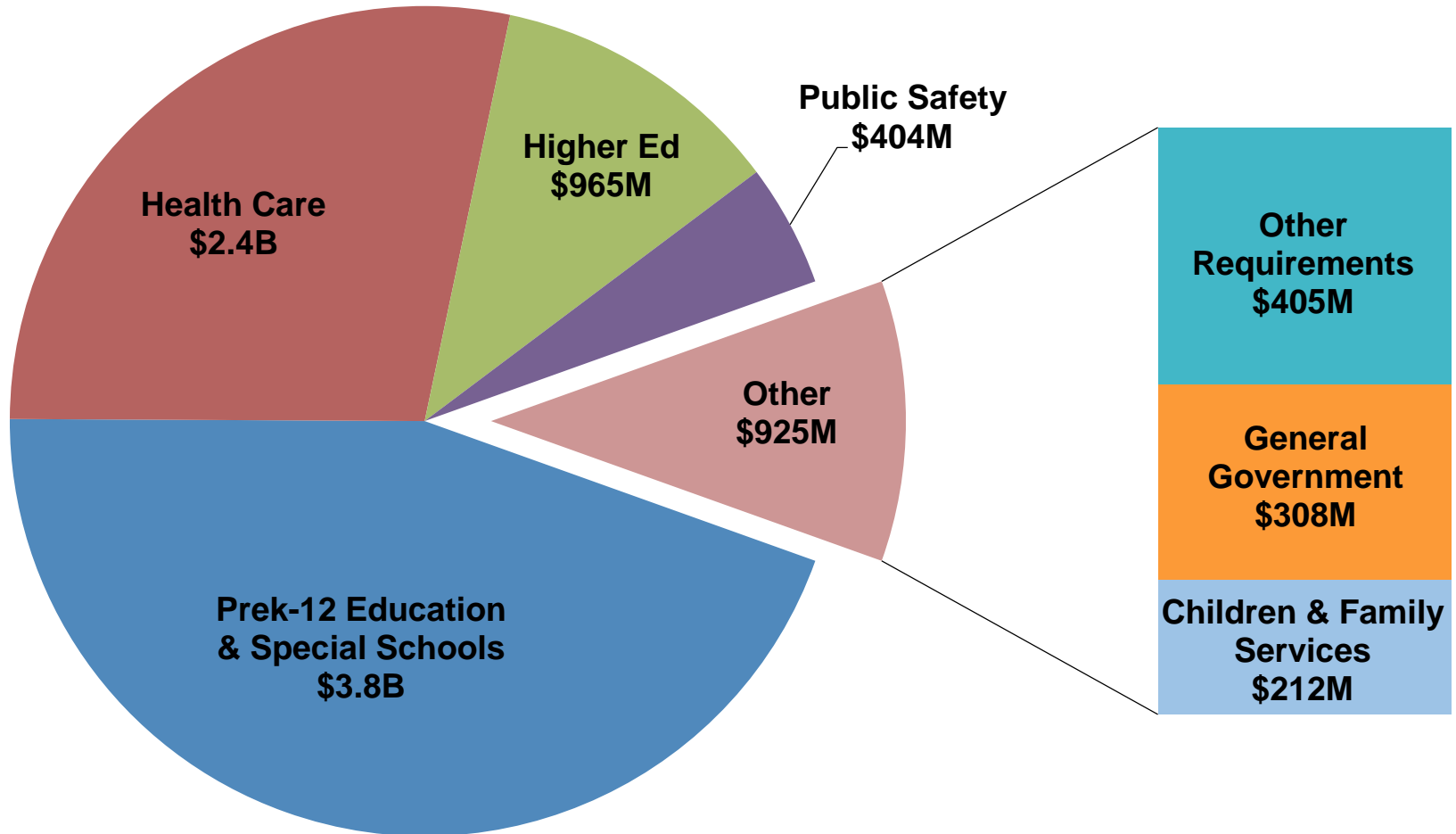
Coronavirus Relief Fund Money - \$1.8B



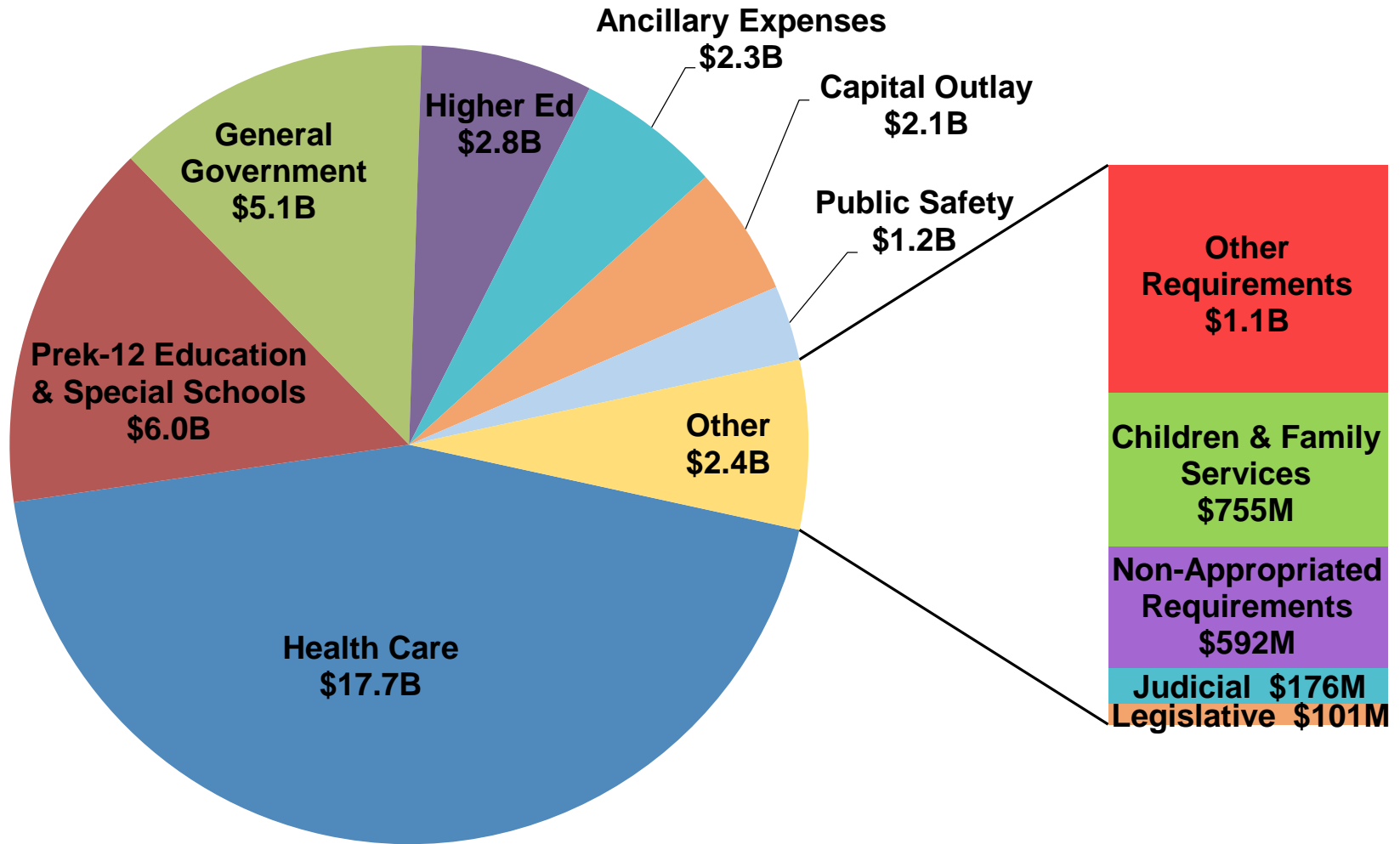
Included in FY 2020 and FY 2021 budgets

- **State Allocation (\$947M)** – Utilized to supplant State General Fund in state agencies.
- **Local Recovery Allocation Fund (\$530M)** – Provides payments to local governments for eligible COVID-19 response expenses.
- **Main Street Recovery Fund (\$275M)** – Provides economic support to eligible Louisiana businesses for costs incurred in connection with COVID-19.
- **Critical Infrastructure Workers Hazard Pay Rebate Fund (\$50M)** – Provides for one-time \$250 hazard pay rebate to essential employees during the COVID-19 crisis.

State General Fund (SGF) Allocation, HB 1 (ES)



Total FY 20-21 Appropriations (\$40.1B)



Tax Changes

Individuals

[HB 37 \(ES\)](#) waives all penalties and interest on late-filed tax returns charged to taxpayers with a COVID-19 health impact for tax years 2019 and 2020.

[HB 328](#) allows political subdivisions to establish a local sales tax exemption for feminine hygiene products and diapers.

Businesses

[HCR 66](#) and [SB 6 \(ES\)](#) suspend the first \$300,000 of taxable capital for small businesses when calculating their corporate franchise tax for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.

[HB 11 \(ES\)](#) raises the amount of sales tax collections that businesses can keep for collecting and remitting sales taxes from 0.935 percent to 1.05 percent, up to a maximum of \$1,500 per month.

Gaming

[HB 64 \(ES\)](#) levies an 8% state tax on the net revenue of fantasy sports contests. The proceeds of the tax go into the Early Childhood Education Fund.

[SB 5 \(ES\)](#) exempts \$5M of promotional play wagers from the total net gaming proceeds of casino operators.

Tax Credits and Rebates

Credits

Angel Investor: [SB 17 \(ES\)](#) and [SB 24 \(ES\)](#) extend the program through 2025, double the maximum amount that can be awarded in a year from \$3.6 million to \$7.2 million, and enhance the credit for investments in low-income areas.

New Markets Jobs: [SB 13 \(ES\)](#) decreases the number of years the tax credit can be carried forward from 10 to 5, caps the low-income community investment to \$5M, and adds an additional \$75M of investment authority.

Rehabilitation of Historic Structures: [HB 4 \(ES\)](#) extends the date for eligible expenses to qualify for the tax credit, extends the effectiveness of the credit, and sets a yearly program cap of \$125M.

Research and Development: [SB 4 \(ES\)](#) extends the program through 2025.

Rebates

Enterprise Zone Program: [HB 13 \(ES\)](#) extends the program to 2026 and temporarily allows retailers, hotels, and restaurants with less than 50 employees nationwide to participate.

Quality Jobs Program: [HB 19 \(ES\)](#) expands the program to COVID-19-impacted businesses with less than 50 employees nationwide, including retailers, hotels, and restaurants.

Capital Outlay

2020-2021 Capital Outlay Budget (\$5.6B) [HB 2 \(ES\)](#)

Priority 1 (P1) = \$686M

- Reauthorization of previously funded projects
- Eligible for a cash line of credit



Priority 2 (P2) = \$198M

- Proposed new funding for projects
- Eligible for a cash line of credit

Priority 5 (P5) = \$2.4B

- Both reauthorizations of existing funding and proposed new funding for projects
- Eligible for a non-cash line of credit

Cash = \$2.3B

- \$829M from the Transportation Trust Fund
- \$179M from the 2018-2019 surplus
- Cash-funded projects include:
 - \$70M – Highway Priority Program (DOTD)
 - \$15M – Mississippi River Deepening (DOTD)
 - \$60M – Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority



[HB 35 \(ES\)](#) creates the Capital Outlay Savings Fund. Use of the monies in the fund is restricted to capital outlay projects and to deposit into the Budget Stabilization Fund. \$106M was deposited into the new fund.

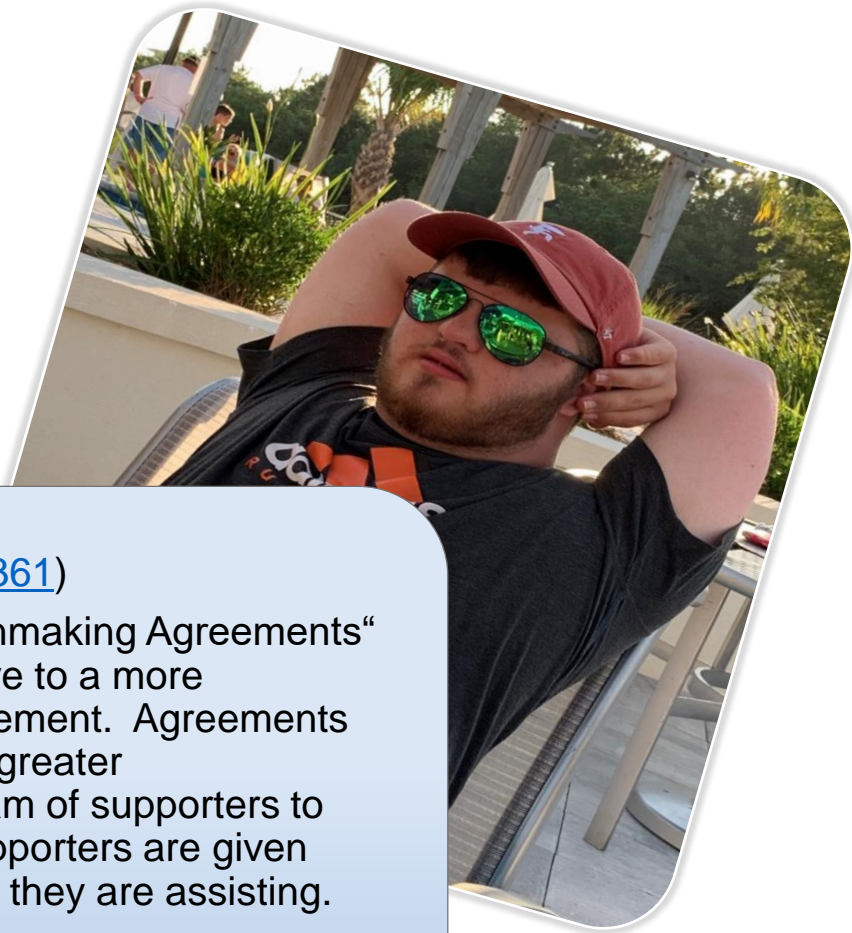
Civil Law

Remote Online Notarization Act ([HB 274](#))

Establishes a framework for the electronic execution of instruments when parties are not in the physical presence of the notary, with standards to be promulgated by the Secretary of State.

“Dustin Gary Act” ([HB 361](#))

Approves the use of "Supported Decisionmaking Agreements" for adults with disabilities as an alternative to a more restrictive interdiction or tutorship arrangement. Agreements are tailored to each individual to provide greater independence on life decisions and a team of supporters to advise adults with disabilities. These supporters are given access to personal records of the person they are assisting.



Dustin Gary

Judiciary

Courts

- [HB 144](#) eliminates the age limit for all justices of the peace and constables.
- [SB 270](#) increases the daily compensation for jurors in civil cases to \$50.

Lawyers

- [SB 115](#) requires any ad for legal services that references a settlement amount or jury award to also disclose all attorney fees associated with the case.
- [SCR 57](#) requests the Louisiana Supreme Court and the Louisiana State Bar Association to implement a lawyer advertisement review recognition program.

Civil Justice Reform Act of 2020

HB 57(ES)

Jury Trials

- \$10,000 threshold
- \$5,000 jury deposit required for tort cases valued between \$10,000 and \$50,000

Evidence

- Insurer identity and existence of insurance coverage generally not admissible
- Jury may only see billed medical expenses

Damages

- Generally: medical expenses paid + plaintiff's cost-sharing + 40% of the difference between amounts billed and paid

Comparative Fault

- Failure to wear a safety belt may be considered

Military & Veterans

Insurance

- Deployment cannot be used in the risk classification of an auto or homeowner's policy, but it may be considered for premium discounts ([SB 16](#)).
- If the Office of Motor Vehicles is properly notified of an out-of-state deployment, a service member may cancel their compulsory auto insurance without surrendering their license plate, and they may not be penalized by the insurer for a lapse in coverage ([SB 65](#)).



Education & Commerce

- Creates TOPS-Tech eligibility for certain veterans honorably discharged from military bases located in Louisiana ([SB 318](#)).
- Addresses reciprocal occupational licensing for members and their family when assigned to duty in Louisiana ([HB 613](#)).

Recreation

- Issues hunting and fishing licenses for any Purple Heart recipient at the resident rate ([HB 411](#)).
- Creates a parking fee exemption for disabled veterans at Port of New Orleans cruise terminals ([HB 390](#)).

Law Enforcement

Police Training, Screening, & De-escalation Task Force ([SCR 7 \(ES\)](#))

Due to incidents over the past several years involving police brutality and excessive force, and the disparate treatment of people of color this task force is to study and make recommendations for legislation regarding:

Racial bias recognition	Misconduct, penalties, and the duty to report misconduct	Use of force	Identifying and eliminating bad actors	Any other recommendations the task force deems necessary to restore the public's trust that the law enforcement community is serving and protecting all the citizens of Louisiana in a fair and unbiased manner
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Commerce



Daylight Saving Time

- [HB 132](#) adopts Daylight Saving Time as the year-round standard time, once federal law allows states to do so.



Banking Services for Cannabis-Related Businesses

- [HB 211](#) creates a safe haven for state-chartered financial institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses.



Virtual Currency Regulation

- [HB 701](#) creates a licensing structure for regulating virtual currency businesses.



Occupational Licensing

- [HB 498](#) requires certain licensing boards to waive initial licensing and examination fees to low-income applicants. Also requires licensing boards to offer fee payment plans to all applicants.

Online Platform Economy



[SB 178](#) allows third-party delivery services to deliver beer and wine via contract employees.

[HB 458](#) prohibits third-party delivery services from advertising and promoting a relationship with a merchant without an agreement.

[HB 532](#) – Peer-to-Peer Car Sharing Act
Peer-to-peer car sharing is the authorized use of a vehicle by someone other than the vehicle's owner for financial considerations through a business platform.

Broadband Access



[SB 10 \(ES\)](#)

- Requires an electric cooperative (co-op) to grant permission to a broadband affiliate or service provider to use the co-op's electric delivery system in order to provide broadband services.
- Declares that the use of the electric delivery system for broadband services is not considered an additional burden on the property and does not require additional consent from anyone having an interest in the property where the electric delivery system is located.
- Requires an annual legislative report regarding any impediments to providing broadband internet access or any prohibitive requirements to accessing the cooperative's electric delivery system.

[HB 69 \(ES\)](#)

- Creates a sales tax rebate of taxes paid on fiber-optic cable equipment.

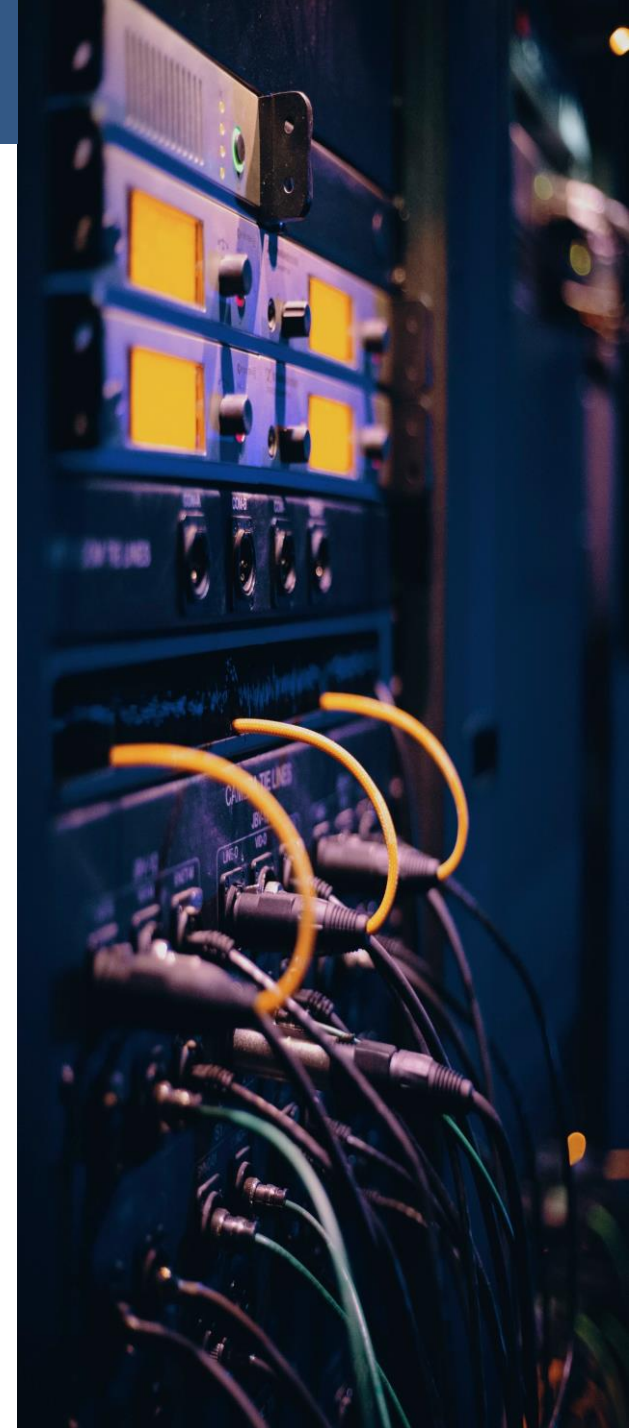
Cybersecurity

State Cybersecurity
& Information
Technology Fund
([HB 6 \(ES\)](#))

Louisiana Cyber
Investigators Alliance
([SCR 10](#))

Joint Legislative
Committee on
Technology and
Cybersecurity ([HB 636](#))

Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent
Initiative Fund & Cybersecurity
Education Management Council to
fund degree and certificate programs
in cybersecurity fields ([SB 79](#))



Governmental Operations



Public Meetings

- [SB 466](#) allows public bodies to conduct meetings via electronic means during declared emergencies or disasters for certain limited purposes. Requires posting and conveying detailed information on how the public may participate in the meeting and submit comments.

Cybersecurity Training

- [HB 633](#) requires mandatory training in cybersecurity awareness for all state and local employees, officials, and contractors.
- [HB 751](#) requires cybersecurity training for anyone with access to the state voter registration computer system.

Education



April Dunn

July 6, 1986 – March 28, 2020

Minimum Foundation Program – since the legislature did not approve the MFP formula for 2020-2021, the 2019-2020 formula remains in effect ([SCR 3, 2019 RS](#))



[HB 734](#) creates the Dual Enrollment Innovation and Equity Grant program to expand access and participation in dual enrollment opportunities.

[HB 848](#) designates Act 833 from the 2014 R.S., regarding alternative grade level promotion and graduation of special education students, as the April Dunn Act.

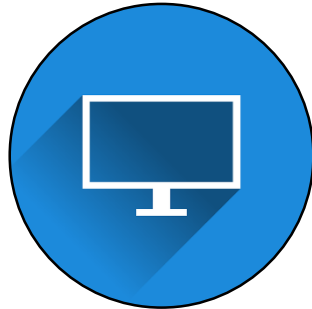
[HB 251](#) re-creates the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission to continue studying and making recommendations specific to early childhood issues.

[HB 371](#) updates the comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics to provide additional requirements relative to emergency and nonemergency care for student athletes.

Health



[HB 435](#) enacts the Consent to Medical Examinations Act, which requires written consent before a pelvic or rectal exam on unconscious or anesthetized patients.



[HB 449](#) updates the Behavioral Health Services Provider Licensing Law and the La. Telehealth Access Act to provide for the delivery of behavioral health services via telehealth.

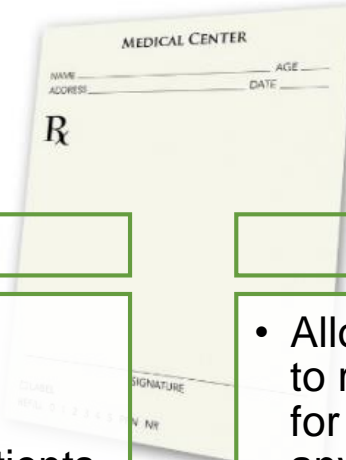


[HB 109](#) adds vaping devices to the prohibition of smoking in motor vehicles when a child is present.



[HB 869](#) authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality to issue a permit for medical waste facilities in parishes with less than 50,000 people according to the latest decennial census.

Medical Marijuana



[HB 418](#)

- Adds physicians that issue therapeutic marijuana recommendations and state-licensed facilities that have patients using medical marijuana to the list entities exempt from criminal prosecution for marijuana possession and distribution.
- Any person can be arrested and prosecuted for diversion of medical marijuana or any other conduct outside the scope of the medical marijuana program.

[HB 819](#)

- Allows any state-licensed physician to recommend medical marijuana for a list of specific conditions or for any condition not specified that the physician considers debilitating to a patient.
- Repeals the requirement that a physician hold a special permit in order to recommend medical marijuana to patients.

Industrial Hemp

[HB 843](#) regulation of industrial hemp, industrial hemp products, and industrial hemp-derived cannabidiol (CBD) products.

- Changes the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration limit from 0.3% to the "federally defined THC level for hemp", and authorizes the Department of Agriculture to contract with universities for the purpose of testing THC levels.
- Adds the element of 'knowingly, willfully, or intentionally' violating the provisions of the CBD products and prohibitions section of law as a requirement to impose monetary fines, and eliminates the penalty of imprisonment.
- Authorizes the sale of hemp rolling papers and defines the concept of a "remote retailer".
- Authorizes the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control (ATC) to establish and issue special event permits but prevents ATC from regulating any wholesalers, manufacturers, distributors, or packers of CBD products.



Agriculture

- [SB 163](#) exempts contractors performing sod restoration or replacement within a right-of-way (when less than 5,000 square feet) from Horticulture Commission license requirements.



[HB 754](#)

- Livestock brand inspectors are peace officers that perform law enforcement functions regarding animals including illegal branding/marking, theft, and other farm-related crimes.
- Upon the request of any regular law enforcement agency, livestock brand inspectors shall exercise the following expanded powers and duties:
 - prevent and detect crime,
 - apprehend criminals,
 - enforce criminal and traffic laws,
 - and keep the peace and good order in the state.

Hunting and Fishing

[HB 159](#) allows night hunting of outlaw quadrupeds, nutria, and beaver on private property year round. However, the sheriff must be notified 24 hours prior to hunting or immediately after taking the animal.

[HB 246](#) authorizes the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to certify nonprofit organizations involved in charitable hunting and fishing activities and waives license fees for those organizations.



The House and Senate Natural Resources Committees met as a joint oversight committee and voted to overturn the proposed ban of the use of lead shot at the Wildlife Management Area (WMA) shooting ranges as proposed by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Weapons/Firearms

HB 140

- Concealed Carry & State Law Preemption
- Adds public buildings used as the local governing authority's meeting place to the list of places where concealed carrying is prohibited under state law.
- Provides that local ordinances may only prohibit the possession of firearms in the same places where state law prohibits the concealed carrying of firearms.

HB 334

- Concealed Carry & Places of Worship
- Authorizes a concealed handgun permit holder to carry a concealed handgun in a place of worship;
- Removes requirements for tactical training and notification to the congregation.

Criminal Justice: Offenses



[HB 136](#)

- Creates the crime of adulterating a food product, which is the intentional contamination of food meant to be consumed by others without knowledge of the contamination.

[HB 434](#)

- Amends manslaughter to include the unintended killing of a bystander caused by a violent crime committed during a continuous sequence of events, where such harm was foreseeable.

[HB 137](#)

- Repeals the crime of vagrancy.

Criminal Justice: Women & Children



Solitary Confinement ([HB 344](#))

- Prohibits the use of solitary confinement for pregnant women and new mothers, except under certain specified circumstances.

Council on the Children of Incarcerated Parents and Caregivers ([HB 729](#))

- Retains the Children's Cabinet & creates The CIP Council to bring together affected parties, government agencies, and advocates.

Juvenile Parole Eligibility ([HB 173](#))

- Any person who committed a crime when they were under 18 that resulted in incarceration for 25 years or more will be eligible to seek parole if certain conditions, such as a good disciplinary record and completion of prerelease programs, are met.

Juvenile Court Costs ([HB 417](#))

- Costs and fees in juvenile cases are within the judge's discretion and may be waived due to the financial burden it would have on the juvenile's family *or any other reason*.

Criminal Justice: Expungement



Clean Slate Task Force ([HR 67](#))

- To develop procedures for implementation of automatic criminal record clearing.

[HB 179](#)

- Removes the requirement that a person be employed for a period of ten consecutive years for an expungement of certain crimes.

[HB 241](#)

- Provides for when and how often a motion for expungement may be filed.

[HB 257](#)

- Authorizes payment to be made by U.S. postal money orders or money orders issued by any state or national bank or by checks issued by a law firm or an attorney.

Criminal Justice: Reentry & Supervision

Reentry

- [HCR 17](#) requests businesses and agencies recognize the value justice-involved persons bring to the workforce and act with the intention to empower, train, and employ such persons.
- [HB 529](#) requires that letters of incarceration, which provide details on a person's time in custody, be provided upon request.
- [SB354](#) requires that, upon release, each inmate be provided a wallet-sized card listing all vocational licensing and certification programs completed by the inmate while incarcerated.

Probation & Parole

- [HB 77](#) requires probation and parole officers to accommodate the parolee or probationer's work duties when scheduling meetings and reporting. Officers may use real-time two way communication devices (such as cell phones) instead of requiring the defendant to appear in person.
- [HB 643](#) allows a parolee to be put on inactive status, with their level of supervision and fees reduced, after 3 or 7 years without violation, depending on the underlying offense.

Gaming



Fantasy Sports Contests ([HB 357](#))

- Regulatory framework for fantasy sports contests, including definitions, operator licensing, and responsibilities of the Gaming Control Board and State Police for investigation and oversight.

Sports Wagering ([SB 130](#))

- Adds a proposition to the November 3, 2020, ballot to determine whether sports wagering activities and operations will be permitted in a particular parish.

Coastal Protection and Restoration

[SCR 7](#) urges and requests the local officials in Cameron Parish, Jefferson Parish, Plaquemines Parish, St. Bernard Parish, St. John the Baptist Parish, Vermilion Parish, and the city of New Orleans to dismiss the coastal zone lawsuits.

[HR 19](#) and [SR 14](#) approve the annual state integrated coastal protection plan for Fiscal Year 2021, as adopted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board.

[HB 592](#) allows the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to incur debt or issue bonds.



Retirement

[HB 8](#) creates options for retired teachers to return to work and stay in the Teachers' Retirement System.

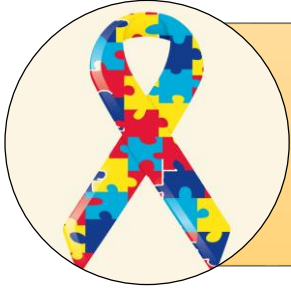
- Option 1 allows a retiree to work while still receiving their benefit but with an earnings cap equal to 25% of the final average compensation. The retirement benefit is reduced if the earnings cap is exceeded.
- Option 2 suspends the retirement benefit and allows the retiree to return to work without an earnings cap. The retiree accrues a supplemental benefit for the duration of service after reemployment.

[HB 363](#) recreates a retired volunteer dental hygienist license for dental hygienists who want to work with dental patients on a voluntary basis. A similar license was repealed in 1999.



[HCR 9](#) and [SCR 34](#) encourages Congress to eliminate the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) reductions of Social Security.

Transportation



[HB 317](#) establishes a driver's license designation for those with autism spectrum disorder. The designation will be included on the driver's license upon the request of the applicant.

[HCR 53](#) requests a study about creating a voluntary registry of persons with autism and other developmental disabilities for use by law enforcement.

[HB 753](#) prohibits the sale of blue glow emergency lights to any person. Adds highway construction personnel to those authorized to possess red or red and white glow emergency lights.



[HB 514](#) modifies the definition of a "bicycle" to include electric-assisted bicycles and classifies them into three categories based on the manufacture's specifications. Also clarifies the guidelines for the use of an electric-assisted bicycle, and allows each city and parish the discretion to overrule the guidelines.

License Plates



[HB 765](#) creates the LSU National Champions 2019 specialty license plate.

Rep. Reggie P. Bagala
District 54
July 18, 1965 – April 9, 2020

Constitutional Amendments

November 3, 2020

- [HB 267](#) allows the use of the Budget Stabilization Fund, commonly called the Rainy Day Fund, for expenses due to a federally declared disaster.
- [HB 360](#) allows the presence of oil or gas to be included when determining the fair market value of an oil or gas well for ad valorem taxes.
- [HB 425 \(2019 RS\)](#) declares that no provision of the state constitution protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of abortion.
- [HB 464](#) requires the legislature to establish a procedure to determine the expenditure limit, keeping growth below 5% in a single year.
- [HB 525](#) increases the income threshold for purposes of qualifying for the special homestead exemption assessment level.
- [SB 12 \(ES\)](#) creates the Unclaimed Property Permanent Trust Fund and dedicates unclaimed property funds.
- [SB 272](#) establishes an ad valorem tax exemption for property subject to a cooperative endeavor agreement requiring the property owner to make payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT).

