



Session Wrap
2022 Regular Session
Louisiana Legislature



House Legislative Services
Louisiana House of Representatives

June 20, 2022

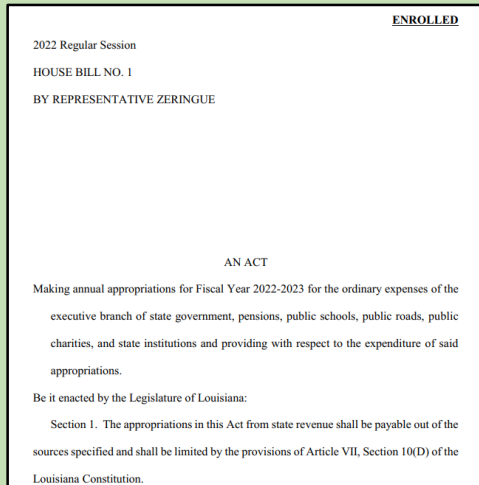
All included legislation completed the legislative process.

2022 Regular Session



- Even-numbered years are “general” sessions.
- No matters involving state taxes or tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions or credits could be considered.
- Instruments filed
 - 1582 bills (1083 House/499 Senate)
 - including 42 constitutional amendments
 - 718 resolutions and study requests

Balanced State Budget – FY 2022-2023



Appropriation Bills

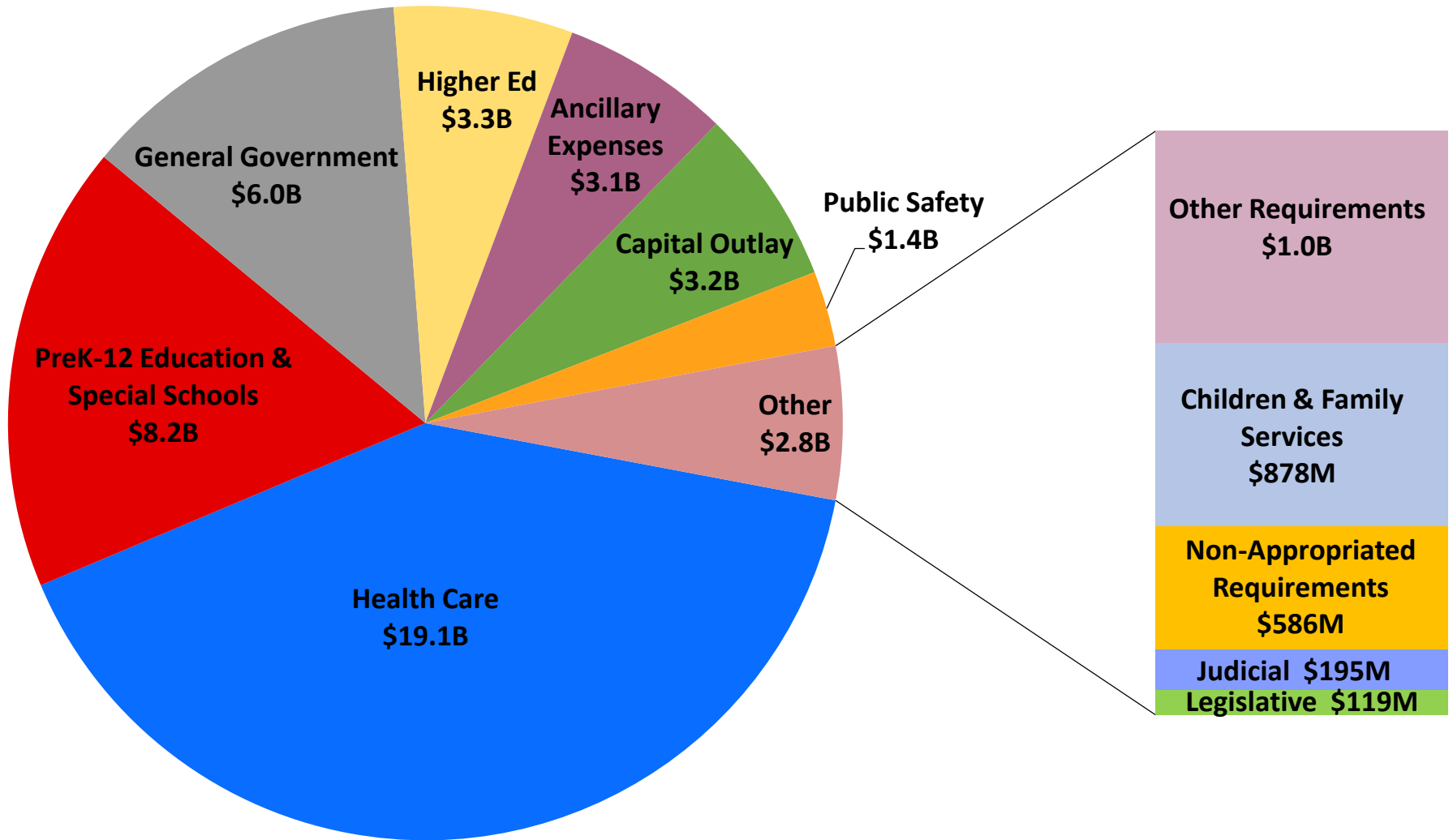
The General Appropriation Bill ([HB 1](#)) contains \$39.8B for the ordinary operating expenditures of the executive branch for FY 2022-2023, an \$835M increase over FY 2021-2022.

\$39.8B General Appropriations

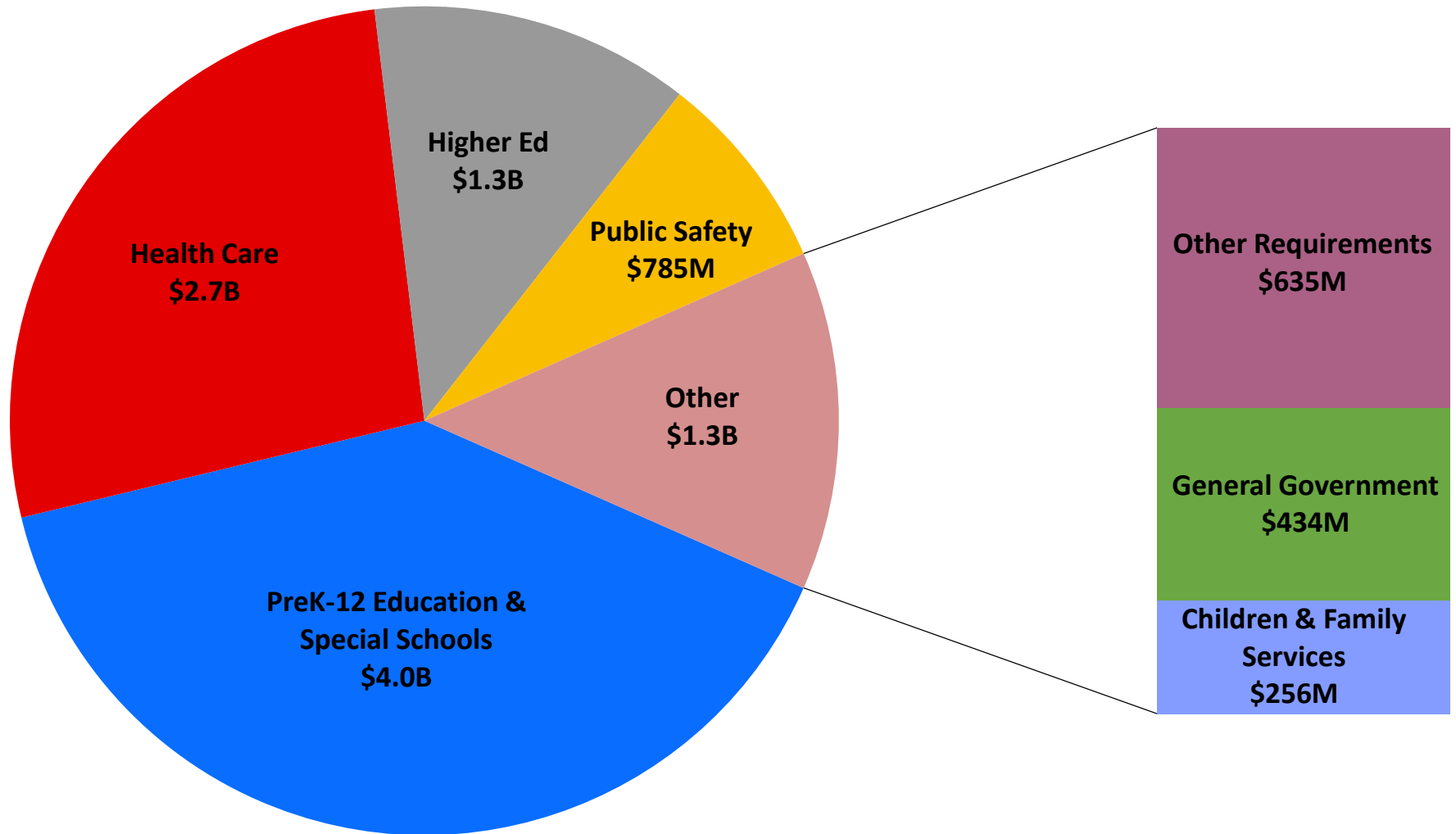
- \$20.7B in federal funds
- \$10B in state general funds
- \$4.4B in statutory dedications
- \$3.5B in fees and self-generated revenues
- \$1.2B in interagency transfers

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 2022-2023 is \$47B.

Total FY 22-23 Appropriations (\$47B)



State General Fund, HB 1 (\$10B)



Federal Relief Funding

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 allocated \$3.011B to Louisiana from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund. In Fiscal Year 2021-2022, the state initially utilized \$1.63B of that funding. The remaining \$1.38B was allocated in various bills for state initiatives in Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

\$500M – Unemployment Compensation Fund

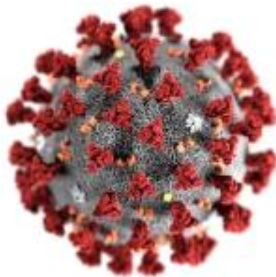
funds used to pay unemployment benefits

\$450M – Water Sector Program

grants for repairs, improvements, and consolidation of community water and sewer systems

\$334.3M – Infrastructure Projects

- \$100M - Lake Charles bridge
- \$100M – I-49 South
- \$85.3M – Highway Program
- \$10M – Acadiana Gulf of Mexico Access Channel
- \$25M – Department of Transportation & Development (DOTD) *for competitive federal match needs and active cost overruns*
- \$12.5M – Baton Rouge/New Orleans rail project
- \$1.5M – Globalplex Dock Access



\$100M – Various Initiatives

- **Early Childhood Supports & Services Program Fund (\$27M)**
to re-establish the program within the Department of Health (LDH)
- **Workforce Training Rapid Response Fund (\$25M)**
for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System to expand healthcare workforce training programs
- **Matching Funds Fund (\$23.7M)**
for the LDH and Department of Environmental Quality to match required funds for drinking water and clean water revolving loan programs
- **Rural Primary Care Physicians Development Fund (\$8M)**
for rural physician tuition reimbursements
- **Fisheries Hurricane Cleanup (\$5M)**
for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) to match federal funds to cleanup boats and debris after Hurricane Ida
- **Reading Enrichment & Academic Deliverables (R.E.A.D.) Program (\$5M)**
to provide books and reading materials to students
- **Continuum of Care Fund (\$3M)**
for the Department of Children and Family Services to provide telecare and assist women with unplanned pregnancies
- **Small Business Innovation Research Grants (\$1.8M)**
for the Department of Economic Development (LED) to provide assistance to certain businesses who have applied for or received certain federal grants
- **Louisiana Wireless Information Network Tower (\$1.5M)**
to provide communication and information sharing during emergencies and weather events

Capital Outlay

2022-2023 Capital Outlay Budget (\$8.8B), [HB 2](#)

Priority 1 (P1) = \$1.1B

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



Priority 2 (P2) = \$111.7M

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

Priority 5 (P5) = \$3.8B

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



Cash = \$3.7B

- \$1.3B from the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF)
- \$451M from the 2019-2020 surplus
- \$50M from state general funds
- Cash-funded projects include:
 - \$120M – Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
 - \$195M – Highway Priority Program (DOTD)
 - \$50M – Deferred maintenance in state buildings
 - \$50M – Deferred maintenance on higher education campuses



Infrastructure Investment



[SB 277](#) establishes the Megaprojects Leverage Fund and four separate accounts within the fund:

- I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge and I-10 Improvements Account;
- I-49 North Leverage Fund Account;
- I-49 South Leverage Fund Account;
- Mississippi River Bridge at Baton Rouge and Connections Account.
- Dedicates 75% (up to \$160M) of the taxes collected from the sale, use, or lease of motor vehicles dedicated to the Construction Subfund of the TTF into the new fund.
- Accounts share the tax avails on a pro rata basis.
- Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget must give approval prior to DOTD entering into a public-private partnership for projects utilizing this funding if solicitation for the partnership begins after August 1, 2022.

Estimated costs of projects funded through the Megaprojects Leverage Fund:

- I-10 Lake Charles Bridge (\$1.8B+);
- I-49 North (\$865M - \$1.2B);
- I-49 South (\$8.6B);
- Baton Rouge Bridge (\$2.0B+).

[HB 406](#) transfers \$500M into the following Megaprojects Leverage Fund accounts (if SB 277 becomes law):

- \$300M to the Mississippi River Bridge at Baton Rouge and Connections Account;
- \$100M to the I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge and I-10 Improvements Account; and
- \$100M to the I-49 South Leverage Fund Account.

Incentive Programs

Events Incentive Program

- [HB 1015](#) provides grant funding to municipalities, parishes, official tourism commissions, convention and visitors bureaus, official destination marketing organizations, and nonprofit corporations hosting an event in Louisiana.
- Entities are eligible to receive up to 25% of the total cost incurred for the event, not to exceed \$250,000 per event.
- Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism to administer.



Louisiana Competes Regional Economic Development Program



- [HB 724](#) authorizes cooperative endeavor agreements between the state and eight regional economic development organizations to develop locally-tailored services that cater to each region's distinct resources.
- Qualified expenditures include site development, studies, and surveys.
- Funds cannot be used for employee compensation, travel expenses, alcohol, or administrative operations.
- Department of Economic Development to administer.

Small Business Innovation



This bill package focuses on research and innovation from companies that are part of the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

[HB 796](#) creates the “Small Business Innovation Fund” and writes LED’s current programs, which support small businesses applying for federal SBIR and STTR grants, into law.

[HB 786](#) creates the “Small Business Innovation Retention Fund,” which encourages successfully funded Louisiana innovators to stay in-state by offering a matching grant up to 25% of their federal award.

[HB 795](#) creates the “Small Business Innovation Recruitment Fund,” which offers state incentives on top of the federal grants for innovative small businesses that relocate to Louisiana.

Insurance - Catastrophe Response

[SB 412](#) offers grant incentives to encourage new insurance companies to join the Louisiana property insurance market in the wake of the 2020 and 2021 hurricane seasons.

[HB 521](#) requires every company that offers insurance contracts to maintain a catastrophe response plan detailing how it will respond to an emergency or disaster.

[HB 612](#) creates the “Louisiana Fortify Homes Program” to offer grants to retrofit roofs of property with a homestead exemption against catastrophic wind events.

[HB 682](#) requires LDI to create a database of insurance claims adjusters that includes both regularly licensed adjusters and out-of-state adjusters with an emergency registration following a catastrophe.

[SB 198](#) establishes standards for communication and status updates between a residential policyholder and their insurance company following a named storm or hurricane.

[HB 1064](#) establishes deposit and disbursement procedures for a property insurance settlement on a mortgaged residence.

[HB 83](#) requires residential insurers to interpret all actions of a civil authority without regard as to whether formal orders of evacuation were issued when fulfilling “loss of use” benefits.

[HCR 84](#) memorializes Congress to review and reform the National Flood Insurance Program's new pricing methodology, Risk Rating 2.0.

Insurance

Health Insurance

- [HB 677](#) sets a cost-sharing cap of \$75 for a 30-day supply of insulin on a drug formulary and requires formularies to include all classes of insulin.
- [HB 532](#) protects retired fire employees from health insurance enrollment discrimination.
- [SB 112](#) directs insurance companies to create a prior authorization program to reduce administrative burdens for healthcare providers.
- Mandates coverage for:
 - genome sequencing and screening for critically ill infants ([SB 154](#))
 - physical therapy services provided via telehealth ([HB 304](#))
 - donated human breast milk prescribed by a pediatrician ([HB 650](#) and [HB 651](#))

- [HB 198](#) allows for discretionary group life insurance policies that don't adhere to standard eligibility.
- [HB 307](#) requires life, disability, and long-term care insurance policies to offer coverage to living organ and bone marrow donors.
- [SB 209](#) increases the penalty up to \$250,000 for a person who knowingly engages in unfair trade practices within insurance.

Other Insurance

Fuel Sales



[HB 740](#) removes restrictions on selling, transporting, or accepting fuel across jurisdictions when the fuel is needed for recovery from a disaster or emergency.

This includes gasoline, diesel fuel, liquefied petroleum gas, motor fuel, special fuel, gasohol, liquefied natural gas, and other types of fuel.

[HB 187](#) gives the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority (LAFA) the power to buy fuel at fair market prices, under certain conditions, and then sell, deliver, or transfer this fuel to any person, firm, corporation, municipality, or federal or state agency who needs it for emergency response following a natural disaster.

The “Louisiana Consumer Fuel Choice Act,” [SB 354](#) removes the same restrictions on transport of fuel as HB 740. It additionally bars local governments from limiting consumer access to fuel choices or a specific type of fuel.

Financial Services



[SB 381](#) creates the Louisiana Credit Access Loan Act, which establishes broader loan opportunities for individuals who have difficulty obtaining loans through traditional banks.



[HB 802](#) allows a financial institution or trust company to provide safekeeping and custody services for virtual currency.



[HB 1005](#) allows an insurance company to offer financial institutions private deposit insurance to supplement the primary coverage offered by the FDIC and other federal or state insurance corporations.



[HB 1040](#) requires a licensed money transmitter to either deliver or return transmitted funds within ten business days under certain circumstances.



[HCR 103](#) directs the Cash Management Review Board to research and make recommendations on using digital assets and financial technologies to improve Louisiana's business and banking industries.

Labor

[HB 192](#) continues the current maximum amount, weekly benefit amount, and tax rate and deductions for employers for unemployment compensation for the 2023 calendar year.


[HB 308](#) increases the minimum weekly benefit for unemployment compensation.



[HB 622](#) requires the Workforce Commission to regularly compare state death records with the unemployment insurance rolls and to investigate multiple claims connected to the same IP address, mailing address, or bank account.


[SB 282](#) establishes a training and education initiative to promote workforce advancement and employment opportunities for public assistance recipients.

Occupational Licensing




[HB 300](#) eliminates the “restricted plumber license,” which confined plumbers to a single geographic area, and allows them to request an unrestricted license.

[HB 822](#) allows cosmetologists, estheticians, and healthcare professionals to offer ear piercing services using a hollow point needle.



[HB 598](#) reduces subjectivity during building inspections by clearly delineating the building codes to which an inspector should adhere.

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- [HB 1062](#) requires a board to review any regulations if petitioned by an interested person, and establishes standards for judicial review.
 - [HB 555](#) directs all licensing boards to annually publish the number of licenses it issues, renews, or denies.
 - [HB 639](#) allows an individual convicted of a crime to request an eligibility determination from a licensing entity at any time, including a preemptive determination before the individual obtains any required education or training.



Military & Veterans Affairs

[HB 123](#) modifies the criteria for disability benefits available to Louisiana National Guardsmen to include subsequent qualifying disabilities.

[SB 317](#) aligns state veteran tuition policy with federal law to provide in-state tuition rates to qualified veterans and their dependents.

[HB 131](#) provides that teachers whose employment was interrupted by military service subsequent to the Vietnam War be placed, upon return to service as a teacher, on the salary schedule as if there was no interruption.

[SB 143](#) allows La. residents 21 years of age and older and who are reserve or active-duty members of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, members of the La. National Guard or the La. Air National Guard, or former members of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, the La. National Guard, or the La. Air National Guard who have been honorably discharged from service to carry a concealed firearm without a concealed handgun permit.



Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Adolf Wesselhoef is awarded the Louisiana Veterans Honor Medal by Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Joey Strickland.

[HB 718](#) allows nonresident Purple Heart recipients and service members that enlisted in, or were discharged from, service while residing in Louisiana to purchase annual hunting and fishing licenses at resident rates.

Specialty License Plates – Military Honor

“Military Medal Award”

- Will include the name of the veteran's branch of service and the name and image of the medal.
- Available to honorably discharged recipients, as certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs, of the following medal awards: Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal (Army), Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Soldier's Medal, Airman's Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Medal, or Coast Guard Medal.



“Commemorative Service Recipient”

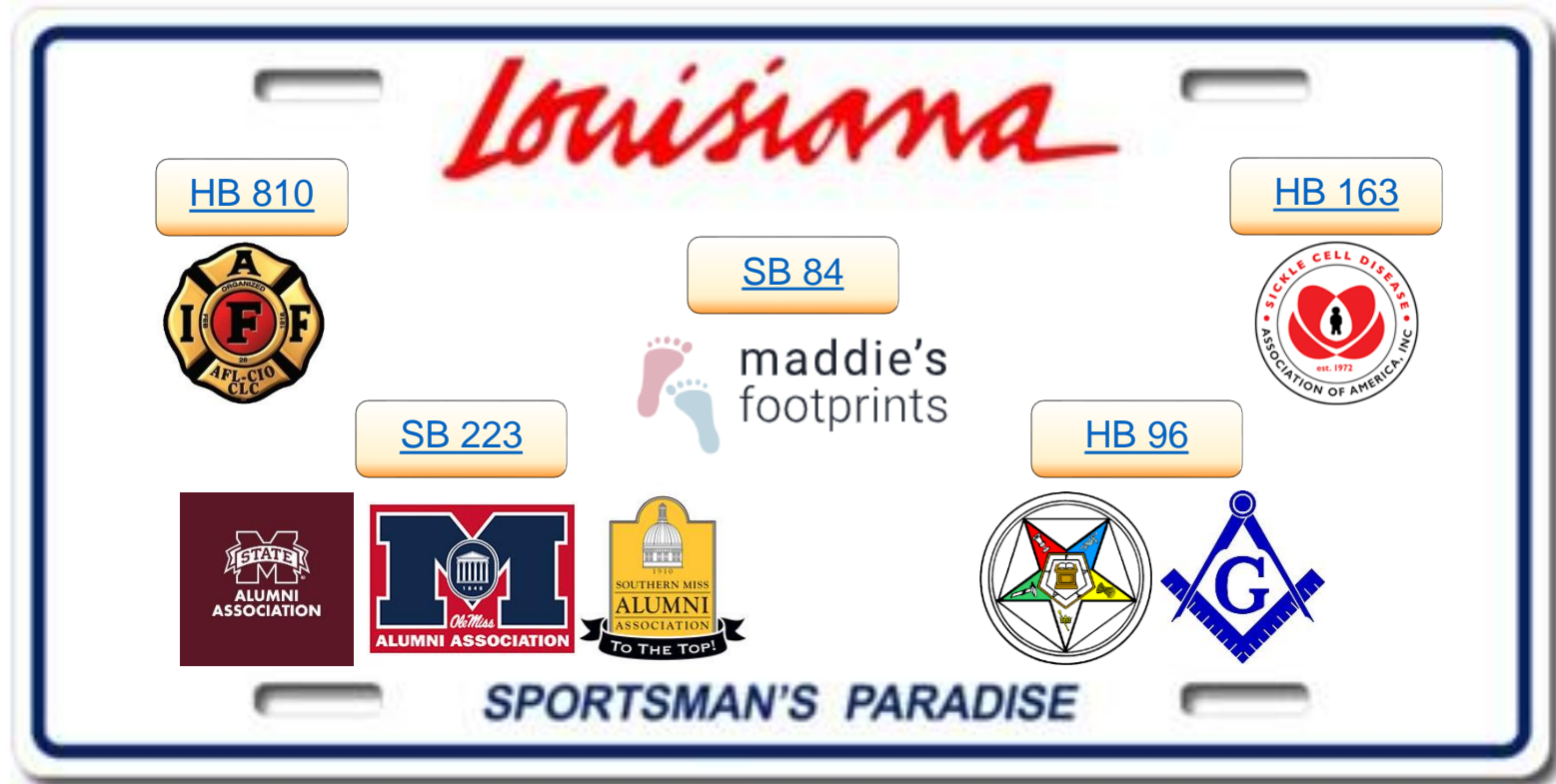
- Will include the seal of the veteran's branch of service, name of the conflict, and campaign ribbon.
- Available to honorably discharged veterans who served in the following conflicts: Global War on Terrorism, War in Iraq, or War in Afghanistan.



“Woman Veteran”

- Will include the seal of the veteran's branch of service and the words “Woman Veteran”.

Specialty License Plates



[HB 810](#)



[SB 84](#)



maddie's
footprints

[HB 163](#)



[SB 223](#)



[HB 96](#)



SPORTSMAN'S PARADISE

[SB 436](#)

"Equine Promotion"

[HB 92](#)

"Laissez les ARTS Rouler"

[SB 61](#)

"Mental Health"

Transportation

[SB 435](#)

designates the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge as a highway safety corridor and requires the DOTD to install camera safety devices on the bridge and place signs eastbound and westbound on the bridge stating “Safety Corridor, Fines Doubled for Speeding and Other Violations” and “Trucks Right Lane Only”, along with additional speed limit signs.

[SB 477](#)

creates a special permit within the DOTD for the operation of a combination of vehicles or tandem loads hauling containers to and from port facilities.

[HB 733](#)

clarifies that certain penalties for vehicle violations are applicable to any driver or operator of a vehicle as it relates to the operation of motorcycles.

[HB 825](#)

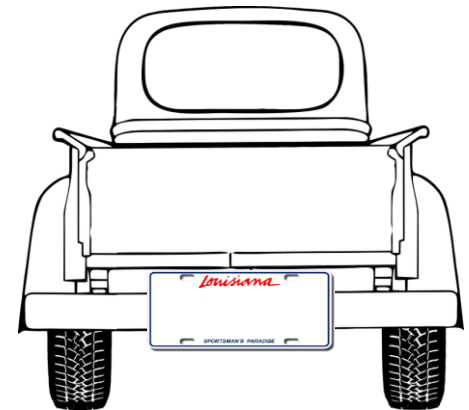
allows licensed practical nurses to draw blood for chemical intoxication tests at the request of a law enforcement officer.

[SB 453](#)

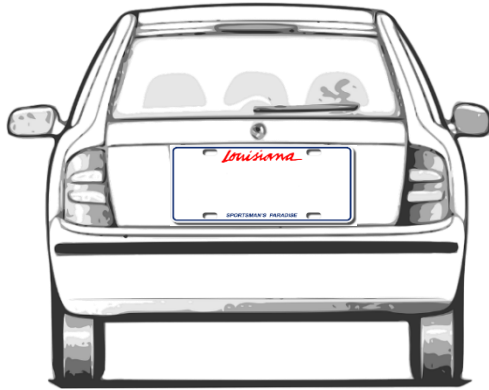
exempts autonomous vehicles from equipment specific to the support of a human driver.

[HB 669](#)

requires background checks of everyone operating a private training or driving instructor school.



Motor Vehicles



Electric Vehicles

- [HB 1031](#) imposes a road usage fee of \$110 per year on electric vehicles and \$60 per year on hybrid vehicles operated on state highways.
- [SB 460](#) creates a statewide electric vehicle charging network.

Insurance Coverage

- [HB 870](#) and [SB 117](#) require insurance companies to cover the temporary use of a motor vehicle that is not owned by the policyholder.
- [HB 790](#) creates an alternative for insurers to receive a certificate of ownership and salvage title for motor vehicles declared to be a total loss.

Catalytic Converters

- [HB 1073](#) requires anyone wanting to buy or sell catalytic converters to register for a business license and maintain records of each transaction.
- [SB 70](#) creates a crime for the theft of a catalytic converter or engine control module, provides for penalties, and requires dealers to register with their chief of police and sheriff.



Law Enforcement & Firefighters

Officer Bill of Rights

[HB 745](#) requires sustained complaints remain in a law enforcement officer's personnel file, subjects officer personnel files with sustained complaints to public records requests, and provides for whistleblower protection.

Occupational Disease

- [HB 1072](#) adds hearing loss as an occupational disease of those employed in the classified police service.
- [HB 854](#) extends the time period of the rebuttable presumption relative to occupational disease diagnosis for certain firefighters in the classified fire service who develop cancer post-employment.



“David’s Law” on behalf of David Elahi

[SB 304](#) sets the diminution of sentence (“good time”) rate of an offender convicted of the death of a peace officer or first responder killed in the line of duty at a rate of 1 day for every 30 days in actual custody.

Criminal Justice

“Becnel Survivor Notification Act”

[HB 508](#) requires the Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPSC), if known by the department, to notify the victim or victim's family, all persons who have filed a victim registration and notification form, the appropriate law enforcement agency, and the appropriate district attorney no later than 60 days prior to the release of an inmate convicted of a crime of violence or sex offense.



[HB 129](#)

requires DPSC to immediately notify an arrested person that his operator's license may be suspended for failure to honor a written promise to appear or pay an appropriate fine for the offense within 180 days after the date the notice was received.

[HB 544](#)

changes the calculation of diminution of sentence and parole eligibility for offenders with fourth or subsequent nonviolent felony offenses.

[HB 628](#)

exempts from parole eligibility any person convicted of an offense on or after January 1, 1997, that is both a crime of violence and a sex offense.

[HB 103](#)

requires persons convicted of the offense of production or manufacturing of methamphetamine to register with local law enforcement agencies.

Criminal Justice



Millie Harvey

Marijuana

- [HB 137](#) exempts visiting qualifying patients from prosecution for medical marijuana.
- [HB 629](#) prohibits the search without a warrant of a person's place of residence for the odor of marijuana.
- [HB 234](#) prohibits smoking or vaping marijuana in motor vehicles.

Controlled Substances

- “Millie’s Law,” [SB 315](#), increases penalties for the unlawful distribution or dispensing of heroin and fentanyl or carfentanil which is the direct cause of serious bodily injury to the person who ingested or consumed the substances, and adds such crime to the crimes of violence list.
- [HB 601](#) prohibits prosecution for persons seeking medical assistance for a drug-related overdose.
- “Gabby’s Law,” [HB 212](#), excludes rapid fentanyl test strips and other fentanyl testing equipment from the definition of “drug paraphernalia”.

Workplace Violence in Healthcare Settings

- [SB 136](#) adds the crime of battery of emergency room personnel, emergency services personnel, or a healthcare professional to the list of crimes of violence and enacts the crime of assault on emergency room personnel, emergency services personnel, or healthcare professional and the crime of unlawful disruption of the operation of a healthcare facility.
- [HB 312](#) enacts the “Lynne Truxillo Act” to address workplace violence reforms and reporting in healthcare settings.

Criminal Justice

Firearms

- The “Louisiana Firearm Safety Awareness Act,” [HB 868](#), creates an online handgun education course at no cost to Louisiana residents.
- [HB 585](#) requires sheriffs to report certain firearm data to the La. Commission on Law Enforcement.
- [HB 365](#) and [SB 393](#) designate possession of a firearm by a felon as a crime of violence.



[HB 1059](#) requires the court to revoke bail upon subsequent arrest for a person convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for 25 years or more that is both a sex offense and crime of violence, and authorizes a contradictory hearing to be held for a person in custody for a crime of violence who is currently released pursuant to a bail undertaking for a felony crime of violence.

[HB 491](#) restructures the definition of simple robbery to include the taking of anything of value:

- belonging to another from the person of another or that is in the immediate control of another, by use of force or intimidation, but not armed with a dangerous weapon;
- when a person is part of a group of three or more individuals and the person has the intent to take anything of value from a retail establishment that is in the immediate control of a retail employee or employer and there is reasonable belief that a reasonable person would not intercede because of fear.

Criminal Justice



[HB 729](#) limits the release and dissemination of booking photographs when a person arrested for certain crimes has not been proven guilty.

Fines, Fees, Costs, and Monetary Obligations

[HB 443](#) relates a criminal offender's monetary obligations to their ability to pay. Considerations for:

- whether the financial obligation would cause a substantial financial hardship;
- the consent of the victim before waiving any award of restitution owed to the victim;
- the amount of each monthly payment based on relevant factors including the defendant's average gross daily income for an eight-hour work day.

Allows the state to file a motion to reevaluate the defendant's ability to fulfill his financial obligations.

[HB 820](#) subjects all facilitating property, proceeds, and commingled funds to seizure and forfeiture if derived from any of the following offenses:

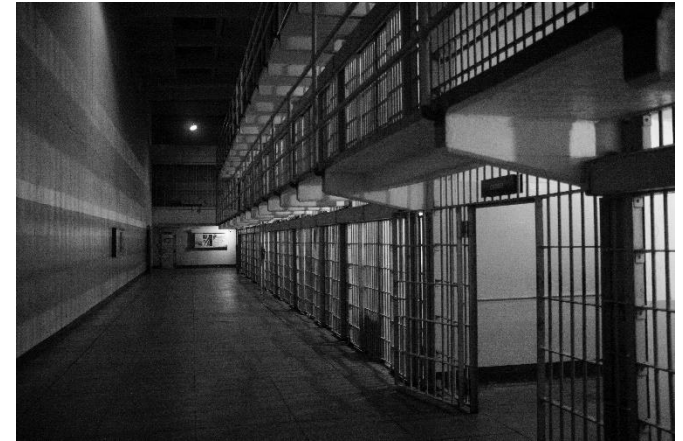
- identity theft;
- access device fraud;
- illegal transmission of monetary funds;
- bank fraud;
- monetary instrument abuse;
- computer fraud;
- money laundering; transactions involving proceeds derived from criminal activity.

Juvenile Justice

Solitary Confinement

[HB 746](#) prohibits solitary confinement in juvenile facilities except in limited circumstances as a temporary response to behavior that poses a serious and immediate threat.

- Limits time in solitary confinement to eight hours.
- Requires continual monitoring of the juvenile and visual and verbal contact with each youth every 10 minutes.
- Requires a mental health practitioner to speak to the juvenile within the first hour and every hour thereafter to help the juvenile de-escalate and exit solitary confinement as soon as possible.



Offenders

- [SB 323](#) requires the Office of Juvenile Justice to implement a tiered system of secure juvenile facilities.
- [HB 447](#) creates the crime of recruitment of juveniles to commit carjacking.
- [SB 71](#) clarifies that the district attorney has discretion to prosecute youth in juvenile court or to transfer the case for adult prosecution.
- [SB 370](#) requires a child who has been adjudicated of a delinquent act and his parent or legal guardian to participate in a court-approved decision-making course.



Alcohol & Tobacco

[HB 138](#)

designates Act 403 from the 2021 Regular Session, regarding the minimum age to purchase tobacco, alternative nicotine, and vapor products, as “The Zachary ‘Zack’ Joseph Cutrer Act.”

[HB 523](#)

allows licensed manufacturers or brewers of alcoholic beverages to host contracted private events at brewing facilities.

[HB 370](#)

allows for self-distribution of beer or other malt beverages by in-state brewers.

[SB 450](#)

allows a licensed wholesaler to transfer beverages between microbreweries.

[HB 551](#) &
[HB 829](#)

update third-party alcoholic beverage delivery laws to clarify the delivery distance radius, necessary permits, and penalties.



Zack Cutrer

Criminal Justice



Human Trafficking

- “Michelle Johnson Act,” [SB 148](#), creates an expungement process for victims of human trafficking.
- [HB 1061](#) provides relative to emergency contraception for victims of sexual assault.
- [SB 147](#) allows sexual assault survivors access to documents from the forensic medical exam.

Sports Wagering

[SB 290](#) clarifies provisions relative to sports wagering. Allows operators to share information about players requesting inclusion on a self-exclusion list. Limits the amount of eligible promotional play per licensee in any calendar year. Distributes proceeds to the 55 parishes that approved sports wagering on a pro-rata basis.

Civil Law

[HB 1083](#) prohibits discrimination based on a person's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle in education, employment, public accommodations, and housing.

[HB 57](#) grants lot owners a 30-day notice period prior to a homeowners association (HOA) privilege filing and reduces the HOA enforcement period to one year.

[HB 549](#) prohibits restrictive covenants based on race or religion in any conveyance of immovable property and voids any such provisions.

Limited liability

- [HB 842](#) veterinary professionals for reporting animal cruelty.
- [HB 923](#) damages caused by a Mardi Gras parade/krewe floats.

[HB 142](#) establishes a right of action against commercial entities that publish and/or distribute material harmful to minors on the internet.

[HB 160](#) prevents property owners from evicting tenants for 30 days in areas under a federal disaster declaration.

[HB 450](#) allows an adoptee who is 24 years or older to request an uncertified copy of his original birth certificate.

[HB 703](#) enacts provisions regarding repair contracts following natural disasters including cancellation, payments and refunds, notices, and venue for disputes.



Natural Resources

[HB 165](#) establishes a maximum acreage for wind leases in state waters off the coast, allows the State Mineral and Energy Board to enter into operating agreements for the production of wind energy, and removes restrictions on the process of awarding wind leases.



[HCR 78](#) asks Congress to require the Food and Drug Administration to fulfill its duties related to the inspection and testing of imported seafood and to support the Illegal Fishing and Forced Labor Prevention Act. Collaboratively, these efforts would help restore economic opportunities for Louisiana's fishing industries, protect the health of consumers, and make the international seafood trade safer for workers.

[HB 1035](#) establishes grants for owners of underground storage tanks (such as gas station owners) to upgrade aging tanks before they become a risk for leaking.

Littering

[HB 374](#)

reauthorizes the waste tire fee and increases fines for littering waste tires and failure of a tire seller to get proper credentials from the department for tire disposal.

[HB 69](#)

creates a legal presumption that the registered owner of a vehicle has littered when there is photographic evidence of litter being thrown or dumped out of the vehicle.

[HB 749](#)

transfers litter abatement responsibilities and programs from the Department of Education to the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism.

[HB 750](#)

authorizes LDWF to keep the fines from littering violations when the violation is cited and prosecuted by the department.



Hunting & Fishing



[HB 762](#) creates the Louisiana Outdoors Forever Program to fund projects related to the preservation of the state's natural habitats.



[HB 419](#) authorizes hand-grabbing or “noodling” as a legal method for taking catfish and allows the statewide use of bream as bait for recreational fishing.



[HB 422](#) allows the use of air rifles and bows when hunting wild birds, quadrupeds, deer, and bears.

Agriculture



[SB 437](#) and [HB 1078](#) authorize the creation of the Transportation Agriculture Group Self-Insured Fund to provide automobile coverage for timber and agricultural transport vehicles.

[HCR 57](#) urges the legislature to support the “Greaux the Good” program, the state market match program that allows SNAP recipients to use their benefits at local farmers markets and receive a dollar-for-dollar match for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Industrial Hemp

- [HB 330](#) creates the Industrial Hemp Promotion and Research Program within the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) to enhance research, education, promotion, facilities, and industrial hemp-related activities throughout the state.
- [HB 758](#) allows LDAF to conduct performance-based sampling as an alternative for testing cultivated industrial hemp by licensees; prohibits adding consumable hemp products to food or beverages sold at retail; defines “adult-use consumable hemp product,” and prohibits the selling of such products to anyone under the age of 21; requires LDH to review consumable hemp products submitted for approval and notify the submitting party of any deficiencies existing that prevents approval within 15 business days of the submission; allows current permittees to continue selling products that comply with present law, but do not comply with new law until January 1, 2023.

Medical Marijuana



[HB 135](#) authorizes dispensing to nonresident patients with qualifying medical conditions and a valid medical marijuana registration in their home jurisdiction.

[HB 988](#) protects state employees from negative employment consequences following a marijuana-positive drug test as long as the employee has a valid therapeutic marijuana recommendation.

[HB 190](#) adds medical psychologists and nurse practitioners with prescriptive authority to the list of healthcare providers who can give a valid therapeutic marijuana recommendation.

[HB 775](#) revises the definition of “drug paraphernalia” to exclude equipment used by patients in the state medical marijuana program.

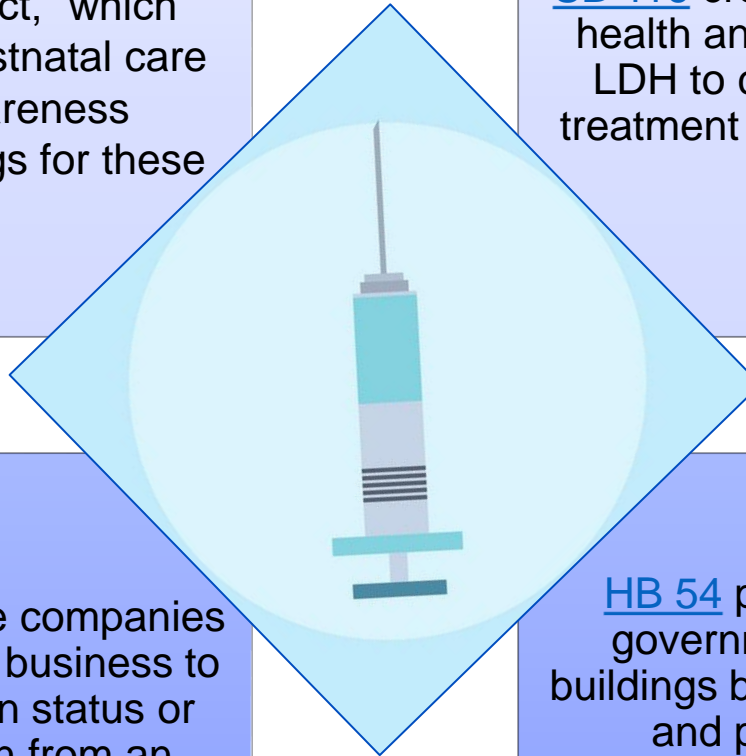
[HB 697](#) revises the oversight, production, and dispensing of therapeutic marijuana.

[HB 553](#) revises the suitability screening requirements for therapeutic marijuana producers and defines “contractor” as it relates to production within the medical marijuana program.

Medical Treatments

[HB 784](#) creates “The Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Act,” which provides for labor and postnatal care providers to offer awareness information and screenings for these disorders.

[SB 116](#) creates the office on women's health and community health within LDH to coordinate medical policy, treatment programs, and services for women.



[SB 141](#) prevents insurance companies from requiring a person or business to have a certain vaccination status or requiring this information from an applicant or policyholder.

[HB 54](#) prohibits banning entry to government or public education buildings based on vaccination status, and provides for civil action if a government or public education entity violates this provision

Disease Treatment and Awareness

“Remington Skylar Watts & Betty Cooper Phelps Act” ([HB 968](#))

Requires LDH to establish and maintain a sickle cell disease registry, to be known as the “Skylar-Cooper Database,” to function as a repository of records for the cure and treatment of sickle cell disease.



Remington Skylar Watts



Betty Cooper Phelps

“Lorri Burgess' Law” ([SB 298](#))

Requires LDH to annually review medications, forms of treatment, and services for care of Medicaid enrollees with sickle cell disease.

“Beau's Law” ([HB 832](#))

Names Act 444 of the 2021 Regular Session, which provided for extended restroom access for individuals with certain conditions.

Abortion

[SB 342](#)

- Provides for the closure of outpatient abortion facilities if Louisiana's ability to prohibit or restrict abortion is returned;
- Expands possible fines up to \$100,000 and potential prison sentences up to 10 years for abortion providers;
- Clarifies current statutory language to address conflicts and questions of validity;
- Prohibits local governments from authorizing or regulating abortion.

[SB 388](#)

- Prohibits the sale and distribution of abortion-inducing medication by out-of-state vendors.
- Expands the definition of criminal abortion to prevent anyone but a Louisiana physician from administering abortion-inducing medication.

[SB 104](#)

Prevents outpatient abortion facility from requiring patients forego possession of their cell phone as a condition for receiving services or patient access to the facility.

Nursing Home Oversight

SB 167

- Requires LDH approve an emergency preparedness plan before issuing or renewing a license;
- Requires plans to address emergency power sources in the event of a power loss that does not otherwise require evacuation;
- Requires the state fire marshal to inspect and approve a facility's evacuation sites before LDH issues their approval.

SB 33

Requires facilities to have a permanently installed generator or alternate electrical power source with arrangements for sufficient fuel.

HB 933

- Establishes a process for all nursing homes to create a new emergency preparedness plan as a requirement of licensing;
- Includes a redundancy of inspection between multiple agencies at the state and local level that must approve the preparedness plan and inspect any nonlicensed sheltering sites;
- Requires notice be given to LDH any time an evacuation must occur and authorizes LDH to perform a site visit for the shelter location.

HB 291

Requires all nursing homes, not just those in certain parishes, to submit an annual emergency plan for approval by LDH.



Retirement



Permanent benefit increase

- School Employees' Retirement System ([HB 17](#))
- TRSL ([SB 6](#))
- State Police Retirement System ([SB 7](#))

Nonrecurring, lump-sum supplemental payment

- LASERS one-time payment ([SB 5](#))

[HCR 11](#) urges every state legislature in the nation to call upon Congress to eliminate or reduce the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) reductions of Social Security.

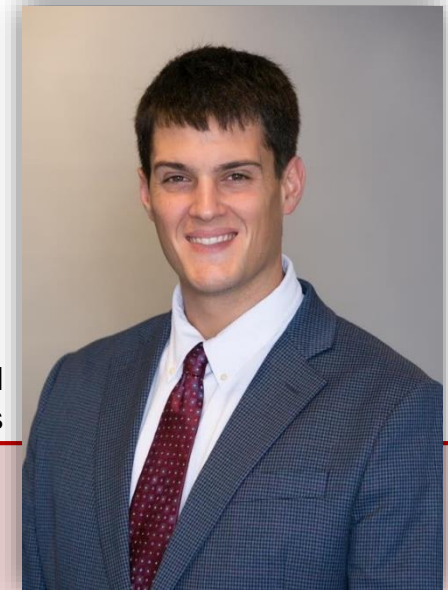
[HB 1021](#) and [SB 434](#) allow retired teachers to be reemployed without benefit suspension if filling a critical shortage vacancy. Critical shortage areas include math, science, English language arts, and special education in elementary and secondary education. Also authorizes retiree reemployment to fill an adjunct professor teaching position in a nursing program at a public postsecondary education institution if the retiree and the institution satisfy certain criteria and a critical shortage exists.

Literacy

Dyslexia

- [HB 136](#) requires dyslexia education as a component of teacher education programs.
- [HB 416](#) requires charter schools to report screening results of dyslexia and other impediments to learning.

Michael
Willis



Early Literacy

- “The Earl Michael Willis Early Literacy Act,” [HB 911](#), requires students in kindergarten through 3rd grade receive three literacy screeners per school year. Individual reading improvement plans, including interventions and supports, required for students identified with skills below grade level.
- [HB 852](#) creates a book delivery program for students in pre-kindergarten through 5th grade that are at risk for reading difficulties or read below grade level.
- [HB 865](#) prohibits the use of reading instruction textbooks and materials that utilize:
 - the three-cueing model of reading;
 - visual memory as the primary basis for teaching word recognition;
 - the three-cueing system model meaning, structure and syntax, and visual, “MSV”.
- [HB 214](#) requires passage of a reading instruction test as a condition of teacher certification in kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Education

Education Savings Account

- [HB 194](#) creates a program to provide state funding for the education of students with exceptionalities not enrolled in public school.
- [SB 203](#) creates an education savings account for certain students reading below grade level.

Minimum Foundation Program

- [HCR 23](#) provides for legislative approval of the MFP formula for FY 2022-2023. Includes:
- an increase in the Supplemental Course Allocation per pupil from \$59 to \$70;
 - a \$2,000 stipend for mentor teachers;
 - an across-the-board pay raise of \$1,500 for certificated personnel and \$750 for non-certificated personnel;
 - the inclusion of the Special School District in the MFP Formula.



Early Education

- [HB 460](#) includes early childhood education programs in the purposes for which a parish governing authority may levy a tax.
- “The Louis Williams, Jr. Act,” [SB 407](#), requires schools to store epinephrine in the classrooms of certain students.

Louis Williams, Jr.

School Administration

- [HB 977](#) adds special circumstances to the allowable uses of sick leave days for teachers, school employees, and school bus operators.
- [SB 145](#) allows a proposed charter school with a corporate partner to first apply to BESE as a Type 2 charter school.

Elementary & Secondary Education

Websites

- [HB 369](#) requires public school governing authorities and public schools to post parental access to instructional materials laws and the Parents' Bill of Rights on their websites.

Video cameras

- [SB 45](#) requires all public school governing authorities to adopt policies regarding installing audio and video cameras in special education classrooms on the request of a student's parent or legal guardian. Policies must be adopted by December 31, 2022, or within sixty days of the funding receipt.

High Schools

- The "Support for Pregnant and Parenting Students Act," [HB 516](#), requires policies in public high schools regarding attendance, breastfeeding, and child care for students who are pregnant or parenting.
- [HB 423](#) requires public school governing authorities to provide high school seniors the opportunity to register to vote.



Brandi
Melissa

The "Brandi Melissa Act," [HB 440](#), requires eating disorder prevention and awareness instruction for public school students.



Riley
Bourgeois

The "Riley Bourgeois Act," [HB 963](#), requires water safety instruction for public school students.

Athletics

“Grayson Temple Act”



[HB 400](#) requires K-12 school nurses, coaches, athletic trainers, and athletic directors, both employees and volunteers, to annually complete a sudden cardiac arrest education program.



Grayson Temple

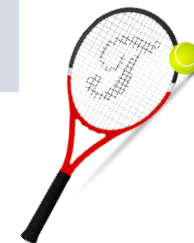
“Fairness in Womens Sports Act”

[SB 44](#) requires an athletic team or sporting event sponsored by elementary, secondary, or postsecondary education institutions to be designated based on the biological sex of team members.

Name, image, & likeness (NIL)



[SB 250](#) allows colleges, universities, and affiliates to directly compensate student-athletes. Any document shared with a college or university that discloses the terms and/or conditions of an athlete’s compensation will remain confidential.



Postsecondary Education

Teacher Preparation Programs

- [HB 346](#) establishes the Geaux Teach Program to award scholarships to students in approved teacher preparation programs.
- [SB 377](#) revises the requirements for teacher certification and teacher education programs at public postsecondary institutions.



Credit Transfer Agreements

- [SB 261](#) creates seamless transfer of course credits in all higher education pathways.
- [HB 231](#) requires four-year colleges and universities and community colleges to enter into reverse articulation/transfer agreements.

[HB 1032](#) allows promotional advertising of the educational and cultural welfare of postsecondary and institutions of higher education on property owned by those institutions or affiliated foundations.

[HB 499](#) creates a fund for tuition exemptions and reduction of textbook costs for persons age fifty-five or older.

[HB 185](#) revises current law regarding expressive activities at public postsecondary education institutions and further prohibits student-on-student discriminatory harassment.

Governmental Affairs

Elections



- [HB 35](#) requires a supplemental annual canvass of registered voters.
- [HB 144](#) requires candidates for public office provide a valid email address when qualifying for office.
- [SB 144](#) requires a hand delivered absentee ballot be returned by the voter or an authorized person to the registrar or registrar employee at the registrar's principal office, branch office, or to an early voting location during the early voting time period.



Legislative Procedure

- [HB 969](#) specifies that line item vetoes are included in the legislative reconsideration of vetoed bills and allows the legislature to reconsider vetoed bills from a prior session if the time period for that veto session is during a regular or extraordinary session.
- [SB 224](#) authorizes the legislature and legislative committees to meet, vote, and transact business via electronic means if the governor has declared a state of emergency or disaster and the emergency or disaster would cause a legislative meeting at the state capitol to be detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare.
- [SB 490](#) creates the director of capitol security as the chief security officer for the legislature.

Constitutional Amendments



November 8, 2022

- [HB 59 \(2021 RS\)](#) allows a political subdivision to waive water charges incurred through damage not caused by the customer.
- [HB 143 \(2021 RS\)](#) limits the increase in assessed value of certain immovable property in Orleans Parish after property reassessment of ad valorem taxes.
- [HB 154 \(2021 RS\)](#) increases the cap on the amount of monies in certain state funds that can be invested in stocks.
- [HB 298](#) prohibits the use of involuntary servitude except as it applies to the lawful administration of criminal justice.
- [HB 315 \(2021 RS\)](#) allows members of civil service systems to support a political candidate within their immediate family.
- [HB 395](#) removes the annual income recertification requirement for homeowners who are totally disabled to keep their residential special property tax assessment level.
- [HB 599](#) creates an ad valorem tax exemption for veterans with certain service-connected disability ratings and their surviving spouses.
- [SB 154 \(2021 RS\)](#) allows taxing authorities to adjust ad valorem millage rates.

Constitutional Amendments



December 10, 2022

[HB 178](#) prohibits non-U.S. citizens from registering to vote and/or voting in Louisiana elections.

[SB 75](#) requires Senate confirmation of gubernatorial appointments to the State Police Commission.

[SB 160](#) requires Senate confirmation of gubernatorial appointments to the State Civil Service Commission.

November 13, 2023

[HB 166](#) clarifies that the timing of gubernatorial action on a bill and return of a vetoed bill to the legislature is based upon the legislative session in which the bill passed and to authorize the legislature, if it is in session, to reconsider vetoed bills without convening a separate veto session.