

Session Wrap

2025 Regular Session

Louisiana Legislature



House Legislative Services
Louisiana House of Representatives

July 1, 2025

All included legislation completed the legislative process.



2025 Regular Session



Convened April 14 – Adjourned June 12

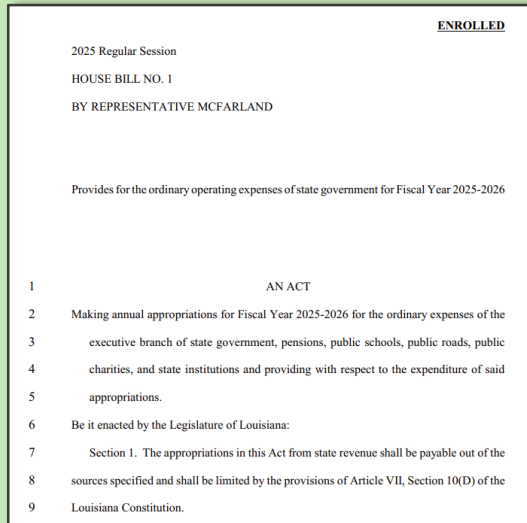
Odd-numbered years are limited “fiscal” sessions. Legislators could file:

- Unlimited fiscal bills
- Unlimited local bills
- Only 5 general bills

Instruments Filed

- 944 bills (696 House/248 Senate)
- 24 constitutional amendments
- 751 resolutions and study requests

State Budget – FY 2025-2026



The General Appropriation Bill ([HB 1](#)) contains \$46 B for the ordinary operating expenses of the executive branch for FY 2025-2026.

These appropriations, by means of finance, break down as:

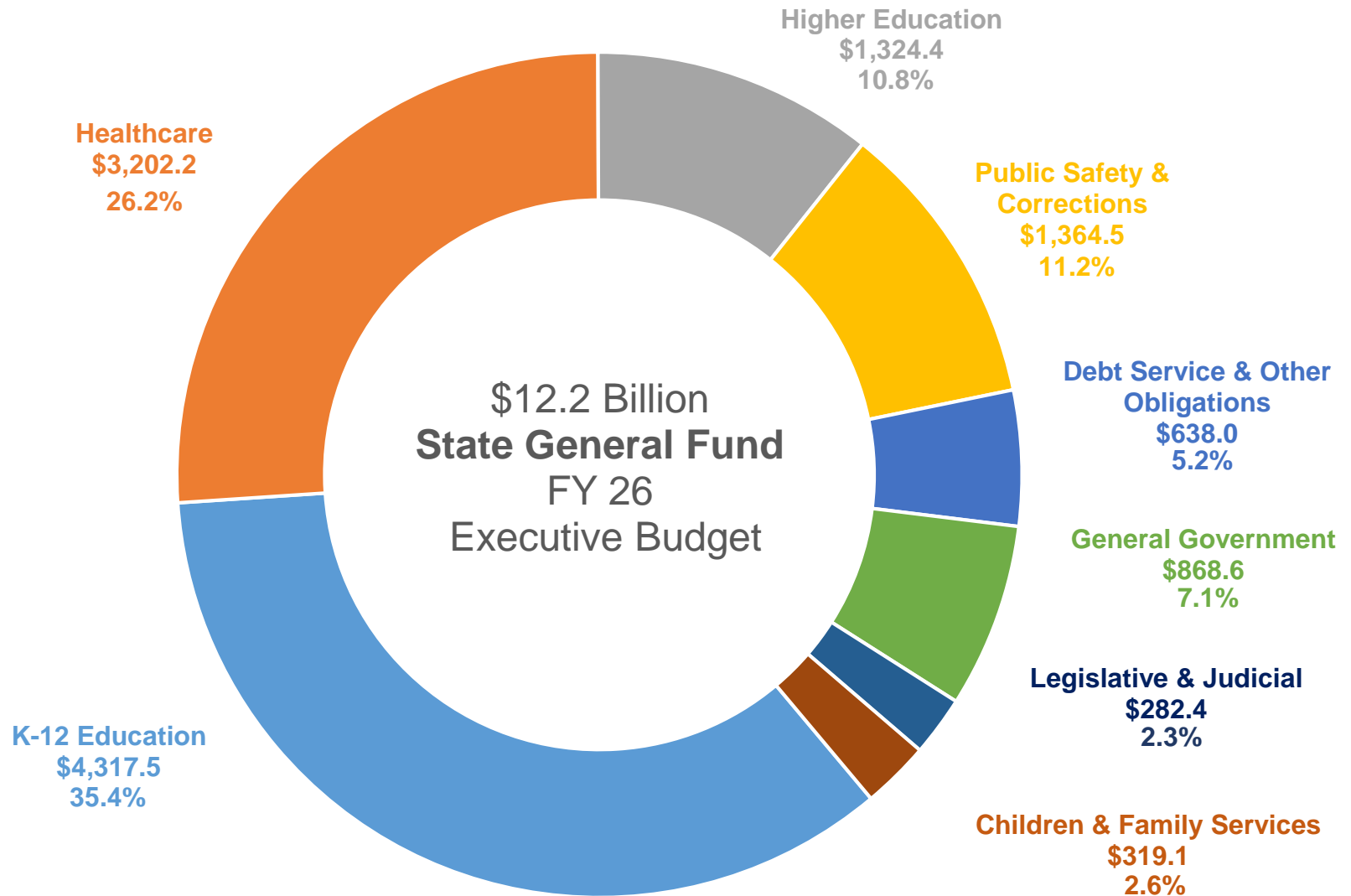
- \$23.7 B in federal funds
- \$12.2 B in state general funds
- \$9.2 B in statutory dedications
- \$5.9 B in fees and self-generated revenues
- \$2.5 B in interagency transfers

Total appropriations for the operation of state government for FY 2025-2026, including those for the legislature, judiciary, ancillary agencies, and the capital outlay budget is \$53.5 B.

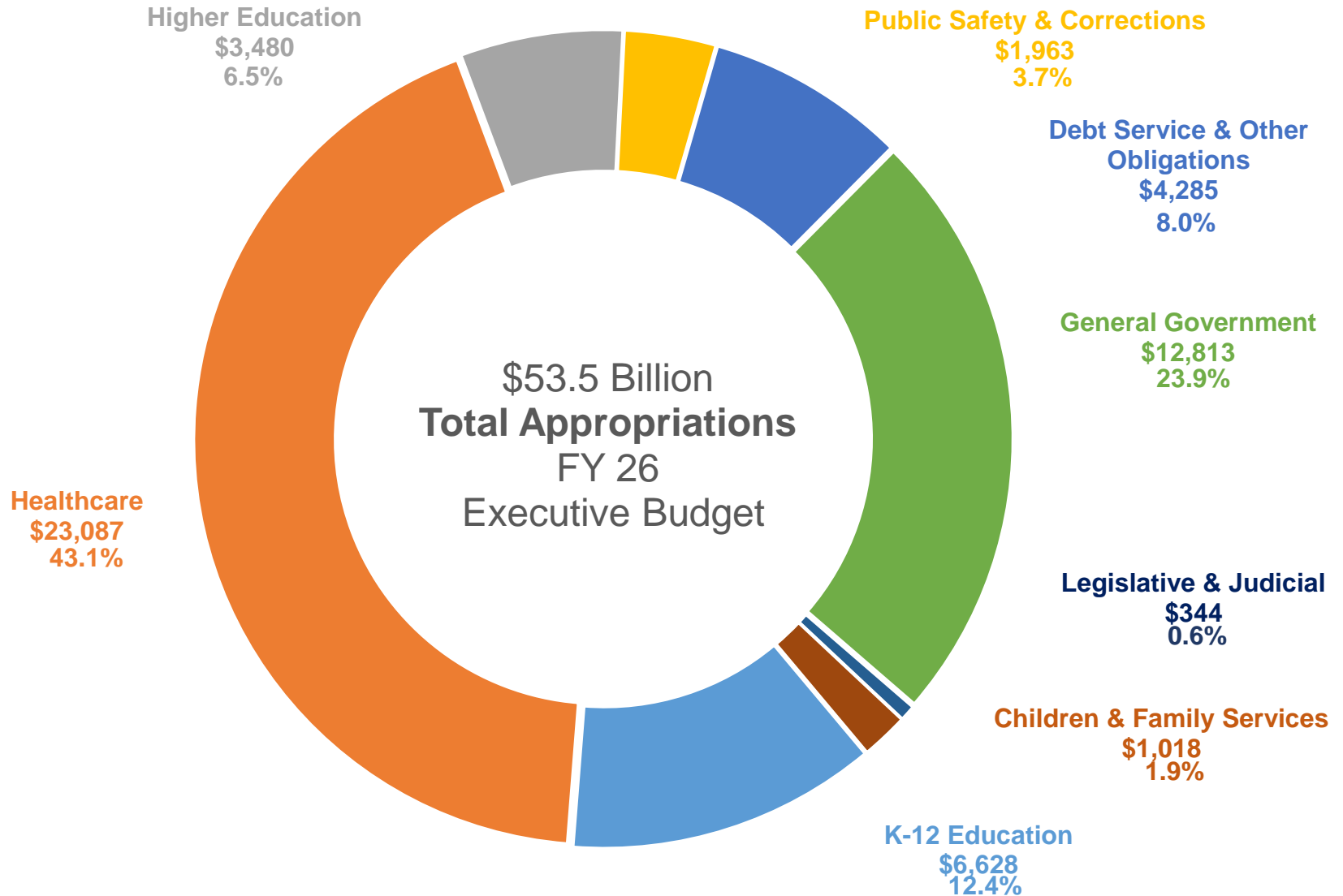
The following transfers were made from the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund

- \$709 M to Transportation Infrastructure Fund
- \$272.7 M to Economic Development Initiatives Fund
- \$75 M to Water Sector Fund
- \$67.2 M to Modernization and Security Fund
- \$43.2 M to Higher Education Campus Revitalization Fund
- \$23 M to Criminal Justice and First Responder Fund
- \$10 M to Voting Technology Fund

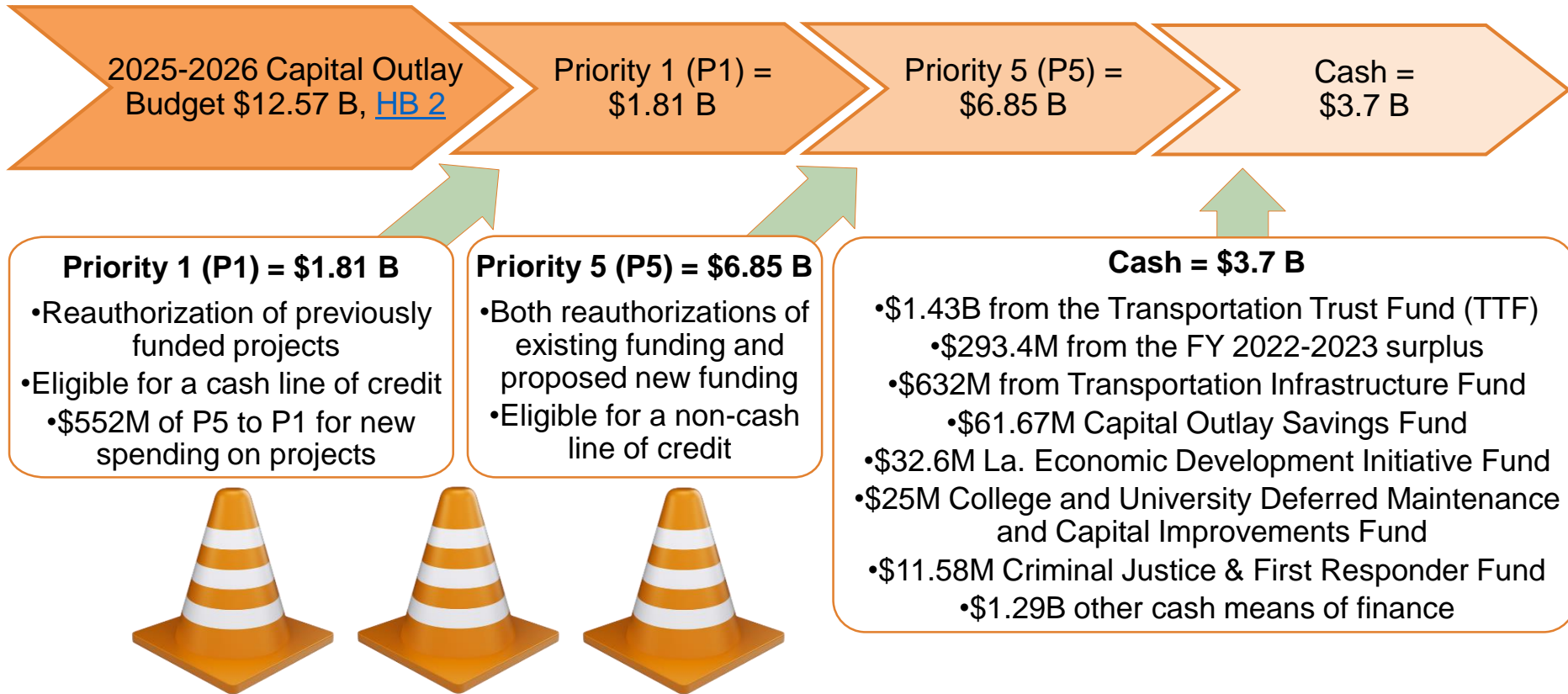
Total FY 25-26 SGF Appropriations



Total FY 25-26 Appropriations



Capital Outlay



- [HB 381](#) increases the population limitation of municipalities for purposes of qualifying for a local match waiver and provides for documentation and certifications that must be submitted by waiver applicants.
- [HB 297](#) allows minor repairs, renovations, purchase, or construction of buildings or facilities by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism outside of the capital outlay budget if the construction cost or purchase price is less than or equal to \$1M.

Appropriations



HB 126 increases required funding to parish councils on aging:

- increases the per capita funding rate from \$2.50 to \$4 per resident aged 60 years or older;
- raises the minimum allocation per parish from \$100,000 to \$150,000; and
- increases the statewide minimum annual appropriation from \$6.9 M to \$10.5 M.

HB 461 provides for the transfer, deposit, and use of monies in certain treasury funds.

- Authorizes the legislature to access the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund.
- Establishes new special treasury funds:
 - Modernization and Security Fund;
 - Economic Development Initiatives Fund;
 - Local Infrastructure Fund;
 - Site Investment and Infrastructure Improvement Fund.
- Transfers money into various special treasury funds, including:
 - \$148.8 M to the Budget Stabilization Fund;
 - \$15 M to the Fortify Homes Program Fund;
 - \$25 M to the College and University Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Fund;
 - \$150 M to the Site Investment and Infrastructure Improvement Fund.

Taxes

Sales Tax

- [HB 578](#) aligns Department of Revenue interpretations of intent when Act 11 of the 2024 3rd E.S. was enacted by reinstating the following state and local exemptions:
 - Effective July 1, 2025:
 - software and digital products as a part of ships and ships' supplies, educational materials by the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, certain purchases by general contractors for public projects, and purchases of certain boats
 - Effective January 1, 2025 (for state tax)/July 1, 2025 (for tax levied by political subdivision):
 - charges for certain repair services, the lease or rental of motor vehicles by licensed motor vehicle dealers or vehicle manufacturers, the exemption with respect to certain nonprofit organizations, the exemption for sickle cell disease organizations, the exemption for Habitat for Humanity, and the exemption for qualifying radiation therapy treatment centers
- [HB 654](#) requires all new sales and use tax exemptions, exclusions, credits, or rebates to apply to both the state and local sales tax bases.
- [SB 112](#) gives certain dealers and remote sellers that collect and remit sales and use taxes a deduction as compensation.
- [HB 325](#) lowers the tax on cigars priced at \$2,500 or more per 1,000 (\$2.50 each or more) to a fixed 50 cents per cigar from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027 when the tax rate will revert back to 20% of manufacturer's invoice price.

Severance Tax

- [HB 495](#) reduces the maximum timeframe for receiving the natural gas horizontal well exemption from 24 months to 18 months or until the payout of the well cost, whichever occurs first.
- [HB 600](#) reduces the full-rate for oil severance from 12.5% to 6.5% and permanently fixes all other oil severance tax rates at current levels for wells completed on or after July 1, 2025.

Ad Valorem Tax



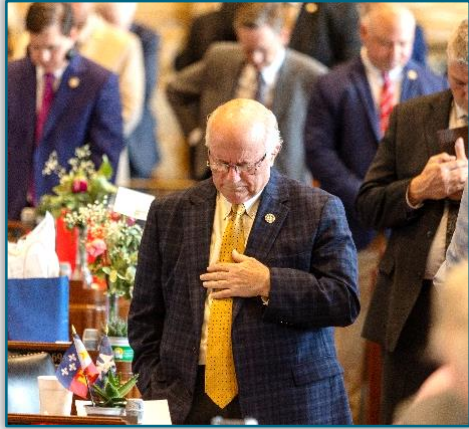
[HB 300](#) increases the income threshold of those that qualify for the special assessment level.

[SB 179](#) reallocates the assessed value of certain movable property (owned or used in Louisiana by companies without a residence, domicile, agent, or office in the state) for property tax purposes from East Baton Rouge Parish to a statewide distribution based on each parish's share of active railroad track miles.

Inventory

- [SB 65](#) limits inventory tax credits to the inventory taxes paid before July 1, 2026; repeals the inventory tax credit for fiduciary taxpayers (trusts and estates) for credits earned on or after July 1, 2026 and allows an additional 10 years to carry forward; allows S-Corps to receive the inventory tax credit against income taxed at the shareholder level; removes cooperatives from the July 1, 2026 repeal of inventory tax credits.
- [HB 365](#) and [HB 366](#) add an optional ad valorem tax exemption on business inventory items and allow a parish to elect to partially exempt business inventory by reducing the applicable fair market value.

Fortified Homes



Income Tax [SB 28](#) establishes an income tax credit for taxpayers who pay to have a fortified roof installed on their property.

[SB 52](#) exempts grants from the Fortify Homes Program from individual income tax.

[HB 145](#) increases the maximum amount of the construction code retrofitting deduction and expands the deduction to cover costs associated with "fortified home" standards compliance.

[HB 441](#) and [HB 329](#) raise fees and dedicate proceeds from these fees and certain taxes collected by the Department of Insurance to the Fortify Homes Program.

Registry [HB 122](#) creates the Louisiana Roof Registry, a voluntary registry that allows property owners and local governments to submit building permit information.

Insurance



HB 148

Gives the commissioner of insurance the power to disapprove excessively high rates for property & casualty insurance, regardless of market competition.

- [HB 345](#) expands the timeframe for insurers to deliver a notice of policy cancellation or nonrenewal to consumers and requires such notice include the cause for the nonrenewal.
 - [HB 356](#) creates the “Stated Value Policy Act,” which allows homeowners to buy coverage based on a stated value for their residential property, or on the property’s outstanding mortgage balance, rather than real estate market estimates.
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- [HB 549](#) requires a premium discount for commercial motor vehicle policies that install dashboard cameras and telematics systems.
 - [HB 496](#) protects consumers from increased premiums or surcharges for a first lapse in coverage, as long as the lapse does not exceed 90 days and the consumer maintains continuous coverage for the next five consecutive years.

Insurance Companies



Property and casualty insurers:



must meet certain conditions during the claims settlement process to limit actions against the insurer for a breach of good faith duty (also called “bad faith” actions) during a personal or bodily injury claim ([SB 111](#)).

- must not include "institutional advertising expenses" when setting insurance rates ([HB 438](#)).

Property insurers and automobile insurers:

- must notify the Department of Insurance (LDI) of a decision to cease, pause, or resume writing policies for a particular region of the state ([SB 137](#)).

Homeowners' insurers and private auto insurers:

- must provide a rate transparency report to LDI with each rate filing and to consumers with each policy offer or renewal ([SB 136](#)).
- must prominently display prior premium amounts near the renewal price on a policy's renewal paperwork ([HB 148](#)).

Personal insurers:

- must inform consumers of how they can obtain a copy of any credit info used in the underwriting or rating process ([SB 61](#)).

Civil Lawsuits

[HB 431](#) – Limits damage recovery for those at fault in an accident. A person 51% (or more) at fault is not entitled to any damages for injury, death, or loss. A person less than 51% at fault receives damages in proportion to their comparative fault.



[HB 450](#) – For a personal injury claim, a lack of medical history for an illness, injury, or condition does not create a legal presumption that the accident or event on trial caused the illness, injury, or condition. (Legislatively overrules the 1991 *Housley v. Cerise* decision.)

[HB 291](#) – Extends the filing deadline for wrongful death and survival actions to one year from the death of the deceased or two years from the day the deceased suffered damage or injury, whichever is longer.

[SB 231](#) – Recoverable medical expenses are based on amounts actually paid or owed to the medical provider, rather than the amount a provider originally billed.

[HB 434](#) – After an accident, uninsured motor vehicle owners are limited from recovering the first \$100,000 of bodily injury and property damages.

[HB 436](#) – After an accident, unauthorized aliens are prohibited from recovering past and future wages and general damages, such as for emotional distress and pain and suffering.

Health Insurance



[HB 264](#) establishes stricter rules for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs):

- bans PBMs from using spread pricing, effective rate pricing, or patient steering
- sets minimum reimbursement for local pharmacies equal to their acquisition cost
- mandates that PBMs pass manufacturer rebates and savings on to consumers
- enhances reporting requirements for financial transparency and price increases
- dedicates penalties and settlements for enforcement costs and consumer returns
- focuses the PBM advisory council to monitor industry and advise on regulation
- gives commissioner of insurance stronger oversight, audit, and enforcement tools

[SR 209](#)

Requests that LDH study the impact on employment and prescription costs or access if PBMs were banned from owning pharmacies.

Mandates coverage for:

- amino acid-based elemental baby formulas ([HB 467](#))
- integrative cancer treatment ([HB 357](#))
- perinatal behavioral health treatment ([SB 42](#))
- proton therapy for cancer patients ([SB 129](#))
- PANS, PANDAS & autoimmune encephalitis ([HB 408](#))

Health



HB 266

Increases minimum Medicaid “personal needs allowance” for residential care facility residents to \$50 per month for individuals and \$100 per month for couples.

HB 454

Requires Medicaid coverage for doula services and support provided before, during, and after childbirth

HB 387

Allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (LDVA) to charge capable nonveterans reasonable rates for services at their facilities.

SB 19

Allows ivermectin dispensing under a standing order by a healthcare professional with prescriptive authority in LDH and provides for patient screening and education.

HB 525

Creates the Uterine Fibroids Commission to oversee research and policy related to uterine fibroids, PCOS, endometriosis, and related conditions.

SB 156

Updates in vitro fertilization (IVF) laws and protects IVF providers from criminal prosecution for performing IVF as long as their actions were not performed with criminal negligence or intent.

HB 60

Opens LDVA healthcare facilities to nonveterans and those National Guard or military reservists who were not called to active duty.

Children

Child Welfare

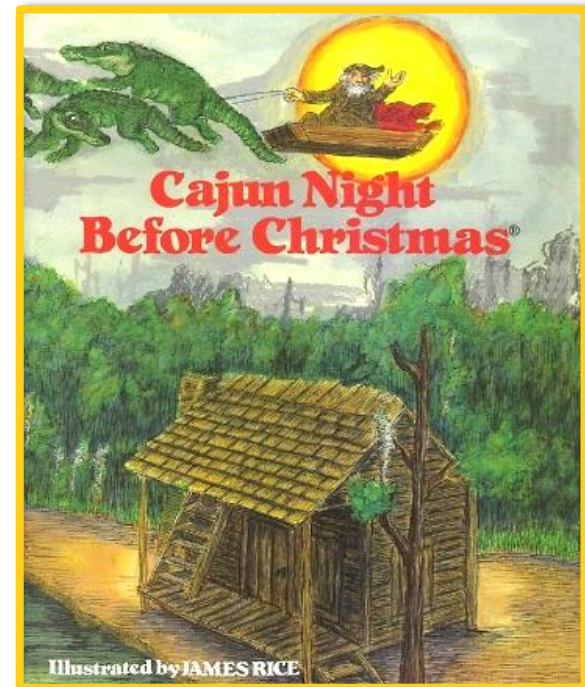
- [HB 617](#) reorganizes the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) to focus on child welfare via oversight of child protective services, human trafficking prevention, adoption and foster care services, prevention of child abuse and neglect, and child support administration.
- [SB 41](#) enacts “Charlie’s Law” to enhance child welfare, especially in early learning environments, by expanding pre-K program licensing, setting minimum program safety standards, addressing liability, and clarifying mandatory reporting requirements and procedures for abuse and neglect.

Online Protections

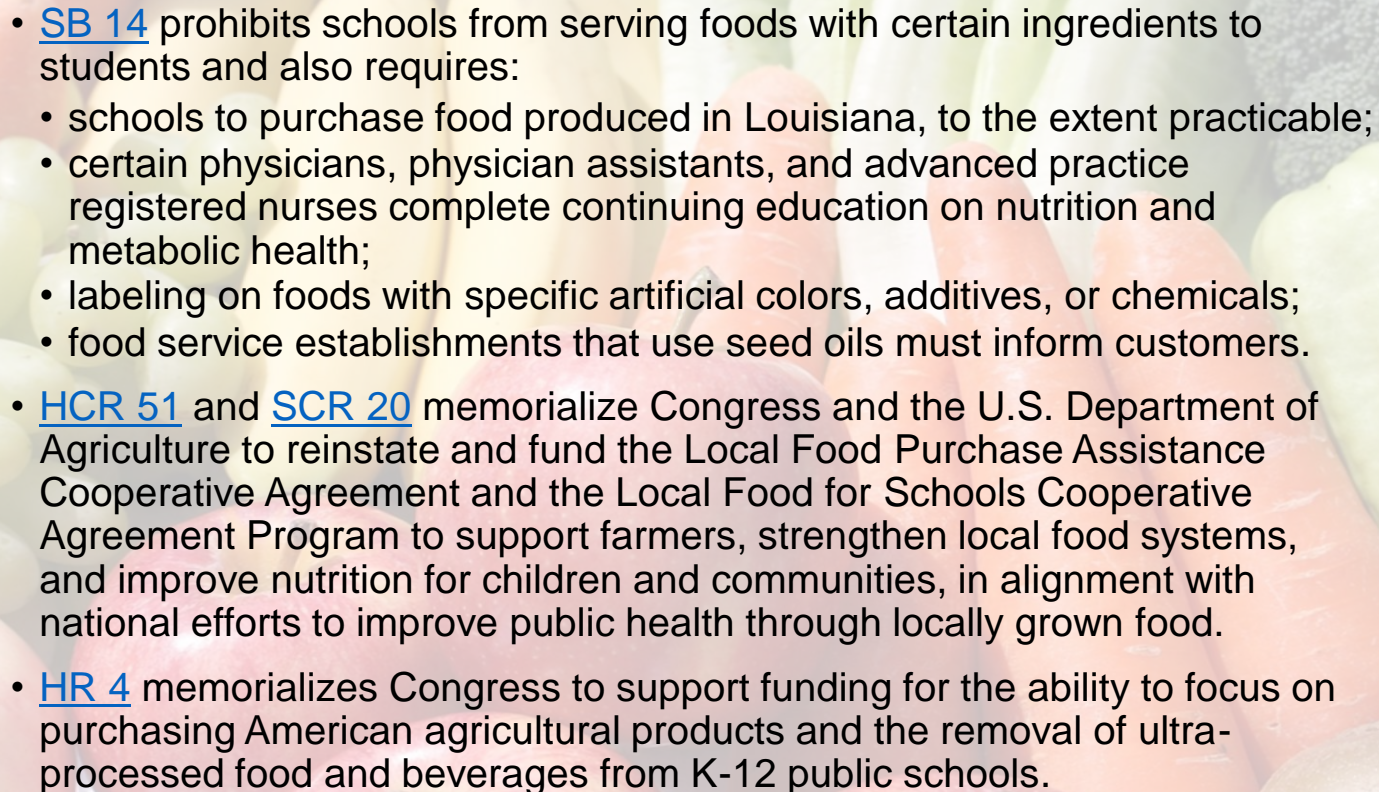
- [HB 570](#) requires digital application stores to age-verify users. A minor’s accounts for an app store or any digital apps must connect to a parent’s account to verify consent before downloading content or making purchases.
- [HB 37](#) establishes a duty of care for minor users of online platforms that allow user engagement and socialization. Platforms must take reasonable measures to prioritize the privacy of the minor’s account.

State Symbols

- [HB 273](#) establishes the *Cajun Night Before Christmas* as the official state children’s Christmas book.



Nutrition

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- [SB 14](#) prohibits schools from serving foods with certain ingredients to students and also requires:
 - schools to purchase food produced in Louisiana, to the extent practicable;
 - certain physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice registered nurses complete continuing education on nutrition and metabolic health;
 - labeling on foods with specific artificial colors, additives, or chemicals;
 - food service establishments that use seed oils must inform customers.
 - [HCR 51](#) and [SCR 20](#) memorialize Congress and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to reinstate and fund the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement and the Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement Program to support farmers, strengthen local food systems, and improve nutrition for children and communities, in alignment with national efforts to improve public health through locally grown food.
 - [HR 4](#) memorializes Congress to support funding for the ability to focus on purchasing American agricultural products and the removal of ultra-processed food and beverages from K-12 public schools.

Education

Teachers

- [HB 473](#) repeals the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund, the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund, and the Education Excellence Fund within the Millennium Trust. Monies from the repealed funds will combine with the state general fund to pay down the unfunded accrued liability (UAL) of the Teachers' Retirement System (TRSL).
- [HB 466](#) requires school systems to provide a salary increase for teachers and other school employees using savings attributable to the state's payment of the UAL of the TRSL and allows teachers to receive a stipend for completion of numeracy professional development.
- [HB 321](#) enacts "The Louisiana Numeracy and Excellence (LANE) Act" requiring training and professional development in numeracy instruction for K-8 grade teachers.

School Safety

- [SB 126](#) enacts the "Protect Our Children and Response Act" to coordinate mapping data to give law enforcement school safety tools.
- [SCR 40](#) creates the K-12 School Safety Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding school safety and security.

LEAP

- [SB 246](#) limits standards-based assessments to:
- English language arts and mathematics (grades 3-8 and once in grades 9-11)
 - science and social studies (maximum four grade levels each, not in the same grade)

St. George

[SB 234](#) and [SB 25](#) create the St. George Community School System in East Baton Rouge Parish and grant it the same authority given to parishes to operate a school system.

Athletics

[HCR 24](#) creates a special legislative committee to study the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA).

Postsecondary Education

Scholarships

[HB 109](#) requires Geaux Teach Program scholarship awards to be applied before other student aid.

Institutions

[SB 202](#) transfers the University of New Orleans to the Louisiana State University System.

Faculty and Staff

[HB 24](#) grants technical and community college professors the ability to join the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) within Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), increases the window an ORP professor has to move from the ORP to the TRSL regular retirement plan from 5 to 7 years, adds the commissioner of higher education to the TRSL board of trustees, and creates an ORP advisory committee.

Hazing

- [HB 279](#) requires postsecondary education students participating in certain student organizations to complete an anti-hazing course.
- [HCR 37](#) establishes the Caleb Wilson Hazing Prevention Task Force to evaluate the effectiveness of state anti-hazing law and postsecondary education hazing prevention policies and practices.

Athletics

- [HB 639](#) increases the sports wagering tax from 15% to 21.5% and dedicates the proceeds to the Supporting Programs, Opportunities, Resources, and Teams Fund (SPORT Fund).
- [HR 15](#) creates a task force to study student athlete name, image, and likeness (NIL) issues in Louisiana.

TOPS

HB 77

Establishes the Excellence award level for students who score 31 or higher on the ACT and adds the Classic Learning Test as an initial qualification option.

HB 327

Requires schools to use a 10-point grading scale to assign grades used to calculate the minimum grade point average required for initial eligibility.

HB 378

Lowers the minimum ACT score required for initial qualification for students who complete approved home study programs.

HB 161

Requires TOPS-Tech and TOPS-Tech Early Start award students to enroll in programs and courses identified by an advisory council and expands TOPS-Tech Early Start qualifying criteria.



Workforce Development

HB 624

Overhauls the Louisiana Workforce Commission to become Louisiana Works. Transfers family and support programs to La. Works and institutes a “one door” case-management model aimed at reducing inefficiencies and simplifying access to social benefits and job assistance.

HB 153

Directs La. Works to evaluate industry-based credentials earned by high school students and such students' attainment of high-wage, high-demand jobs aligned with state workforce priorities.

HB 153

Expands the criteria for benefit disqualification and requires individuals collecting unemployment compensation to perform at least five work search actions a week to maintain eligibility.

SCR 38

Creates the Task Force on Career Alignment to study education-to-career counseling, which connects college and university students with work opportunities to retain more graduates in Louisiana.

HB 507

Establishes the High Impact Job Program within Louisiana Economic Development (LED), which awards grants to companies that pay wages above the parish average and offer basic health benefits.



Commerce



[SB 161](#) consolidates the LED offices into a single “office of economic development,” revises the powers of the LED secretary and corporation, and establishes a dedicated fund for economic development initiatives.



[HB 326](#) revises membership and qualifications for the La. Board of Cosmetology and increases some cosmetology fees while simplifying the overall fee scale to remove different rates for residents and nonresidents.



[SB 221](#) requires the La. Board of Massage Therapy investigate complaints of illicit activity within 10 days, expands owner background checks, prohibits sleeping quarters inside massage businesses, and strengthens laws on revoked licenses.



[HB 90](#) bans third-party restaurant reservation platforms from selling, promoting, or arranging reservations without a contract with the restaurants.



[SB 122](#) modernizes and streamlines licensing laws for contractors, including board membership, license applications and classification, project value thresholds, and recordkeeping requirements.



[HB 343](#) specifies that a homestead exemption is not a defense against unpaid assessments owed to a condominium association if the assessments were meant for routine improvement, maintenance, and protection of common elements.

First Responders

Firefighters



[HB 562](#) allows fire departments, fire protection districts, and nonprofit corporations under contract with a fire protection district to seek reimbursement for the cost of automobile extraction services provided to an individual involved in a car accident.

- [HB 136](#) allows governing authorities to create a chief of operations position within the fire department of classified civil service systems.

Firefighters' Retirement System (FRS)

- [HB 18](#) provides a one time, nonrecurring lump-sum payment of \$2,000 to qualified retirees and beneficiaries and removes the prohibition against the FRS board using its funding deposit account for cost-of-living adjustments.
- [HB 19](#) extends the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) participation in FRS from 3 to 5 years, allows those already in DROP to extend their participation to 5 years, and creates a self-directed DROP account administered via a 3rd party.



Law Enforcement

[SB 128](#) mandates a written report when any law enforcement officer uses physical force on a member of the public.

Ambulance Services

[HB 241](#) requires local governing authorities to submit the established ground ambulance service rates provided in its geographic service area to LDI.

Municipal, Parochial, & Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Affairs

- [SB 54](#) allows for the appointment of a limited fiscal administrator for oversight of a specific department or functions of a political subdivision if necessary to address an emergency affecting the fiscal stability and the public health, safety, and welfare of citizens of a political subdivision of the state.
- [SB 164](#) requires elected officials and employees of a municipality whose job includes procurement activities to complete a minimum of one hour each year of training on procurement and the letting of public contracts.

[SB 220](#) revises laws related to local governments:

- authorizes the governor to fill a vacancy in chief of police or fire chief in certain municipalities;
- allows a parish or municipality to sell property owned by certain water or sewer utilities without an election;
- authorizes a parish or municipality to establish local districts and commissions via ordinance;
- grants local authorities expropriation power and other legal rights relative to drainage canals;
- dedicates revenue from some traffic cameras in Orleans Parish to stormwater drainage.

[HB 446](#) confines judicial review of land use to grounds that an ordinance or act is “arbitrary and capricious” and to the record established before the governing authority whose decision is being appealed.

[SB 63](#) gives municipalities a privilege against multifamily residential properties for unpaid sewage disposal and water system service charges.

[SB 189](#) allows local governing authorities to establish a land bank authority to address economically and physically depressed areas.

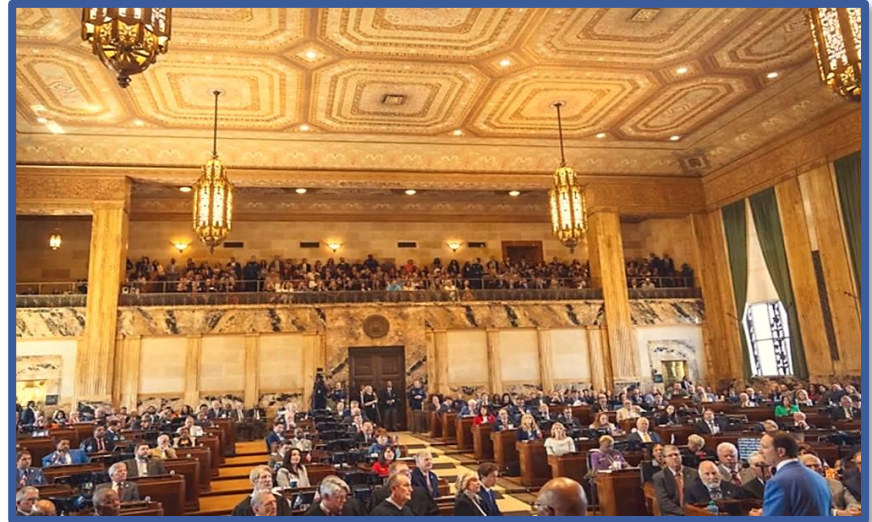
Louisiana State Museum

- [SB 210](#) modifies the membership of the board of directors, revises the commercial and residential leasing evaluation criteria and the leasing process, renames the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, and expands the purpose to include the preservation and presentation of the history and culture of Northwest Louisiana.
- [HB 108](#) expands the criteria for the position of museum director to include experience in a related field.

Governmental Affairs

Public Officials

- [HB 674](#) revises the Code of Governmental Ethics.
- [HB 693](#) revises the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.
- [HB 502](#) specifies removal grounds for a registrar of voters and the process for the Commissioner of Elections to raise allegations for such removal to the State Board of Election Supervisors.
- [HB 526](#) requires the commissioner of administration to establish a website to serve as the official journal of the state.
- [HB 259](#) requires notaries public to maintain a bond in the amount of \$50,000.
- [HB 681](#) adds to the list of persons that may request their personal information not be published by a public body or a third party:
 - current or retired district attorneys (DA), assistant DAs, DA investigators;
 - current statewide elected officials, legislators, and public service commissioners.



Elections

- [HB 577](#) allows for the procurement of voting machines or systems by competitive sealed proposals or invitation to negotiate.
- [HB 648](#) increases candidate qualifying fees and establishes the Campaign Sign Recycling Fund.
- [HB 554](#) establishes voting restriction notices and codes on driver's licenses for noncitizens and lawful aliens without U.S. citizenship.

Energy & Natural Resources Department



SB 244

- Changes the name of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources to the Department of Conservation and Energy;
- Eliminates the office of conservation and transfers those functions to the department;
- Organizes the department into the executive office of the secretary that includes the offices of state resources, legal services, administration, permitting and compliance, mineral resources, enforcement, and energy;
- Creates the Natural Resources Commission as a coordinating body for management of the state's natural resources;
- Provides for the use and investment of several department funds;
- Establishes a new expedited permitting program;
- Gives the department exclusive authority to regulate water-dependent activities and to manage and protect the water resources of the state;
- Requires advance notice to surface and mineral owners prior to permitting or performing carbon dioxide sequestration activities;
- Only allows expropriation for carbon dioxide sequestration (CCS) pipelines for absentee landowners and for pipelines that are common carriers;
- Requires the department to publish Class VI or Class V applications related to CCS on its website;
- Authorizes orphaned oilfield site restoration contribution agreements limiting a party's obligations and resolving regulatory compliance responsibilities;
- Amends procedures for remediation of oilfield and exploration and production sites;
- Creates a voluntary process for resolution of disputes within the department's jurisdiction.

Energy

Carbon Capture Sequestration (CCS)

- [HB 691](#) establishes public safety and accountability procedures for CCS, including required reporting of incidents to the public.
- [HB 548](#) dedicates 30% of injection-based revenue collected by state agencies for CCS projects on state agency property to the parishes where the carbon dioxide is stored.
- [SB 36](#) and [SB 73](#) require substantial consideration be given to local government comments on matters that require a public comment period or hearing when determining the appropriate course of action.
- SB 73 also increases:
 - the percentage of owners in interest within a proposed storage unit required for unit application consideration to 85%;
 - requirements to initiate eminent domain proceedings for geologic storage; and
 - notice requirements for Class VI and Class V well permit applications.
- SB 36 also specifies that carbon dioxide transporter certificates of public convenience and necessity issued prior to the law's effective date remain valid.

Energy

- [HB 459](#) establishes requirements for renewable energy battery storage, wind energy other than for residential use, and solar power generation facilities.
- [SB 127](#) authorizes the DENR secretary to establish a parity program for nuclear power generation and to expedite the permitting process for electric public utilities and establishes application requirements.
- [HR 212](#) urges and requests the DENR and the Public Service Commission to research the benefits of using nuclear energy generation.
- [HB 692](#) establishes state policy regarding affordable, reliable energy and grid resilience, including requirements that energy sources be affordable, reliable, clean, and dispatchable, that they deliver cost savings for commercial and residential customers, and they include hydrocarbon-generated energy.
- [HR 265](#) directs the Public Service Commission to explore technology, policy, and cost recovery mechanisms to harden the electrical grid against electromagnetic threats.

Water



- [SB 97](#) creates the Coordinated Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation Authority (CURRENT) as the primary entity responsible for integrated flood control, risk reduction, navigation, water resource management, and infrastructure projects specifically within the upland areas of the state, excluding areas under the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA).
- [HB 687](#) authorizes the port of New Orleans to utilize public-private partnerships for the St. Bernard Transportation Corridor roadway for the Louisiana International Terminal.
- [SB 94](#) renames the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America in state laws and defines jurisdictional "waters of the state" and "fastlands".
- [HB 688](#) revises the structure of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority East and West by adjusting board membership, leadership roles, vacancy procedures, and term limits.

Natural Resources & Environment

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (DWF)



- [HB 497](#) authorizes the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board, Charter Boat Association, and the Restaurant Association to promote the Catch and Cook Program in conjunction with the DWF; adds licensed charter boat captains to the program's participants; requires labeling of fish and alligator provided to restaurants; modifies the permit process for fisherman and hunters who participate.
- [HB 564](#) establishes a Conservation Incentive Program within DWF to provide grant funding for forest stand improvement, prescribed fire implementation, feral swine control, and increased water and sustainability management for agricultural landscapes.
- [HCR 75](#) creates the Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force in response to the neurodegenerative disease being found in deer in Louisiana in 2022.
- [SB 85](#) establishes no-wake zones within 300 feet of public bridges and allows local governing authorities to establish and enforce no-wake zones.

Environment



[HB 581](#) prohibits the intentional outdoor release of balloons inflated with gases lighter than air by persons over the age of sixteen, except for hot air balloons and for scientific, meteorological, or educational purposes.

- [SB 46](#) prohibits the intentional release of substances into the atmosphere within the borders of Louisiana for the express purpose of affecting the weather, except for fire fighting and agricultural applications.
- [HB 173](#) authorizes state park wardens to enforce litter laws statewide and to issue citations with civil penalties.
- [SB 32](#) exempts gypsum suppliers and agricultural producers or landowners that utilize gypsum from civil liability arising out of the gypsum utilization when following all laws, rules/regulations, and specifications.



Department of Transportation & Development (DOTD)



- [HB 528](#) reorganizes the DOTD by adding the office of transformation and the office of project delivery and streamlines department functions.
- [HB 428](#) recreates the DOTD and establishes a new termination date of July 1, 2026.
- [HB 640](#) establishes the office of Louisiana Highway Construction to deliver transportation infrastructure projects in an expeditious, transparent, safe, and efficient manner.
- [HCR 45](#) authorizes the DOTD to evaluate district operations and establish a construction engineer role. Also ensures continuous, effective, and timely project delivery during the transition.

AIRCRAFTS/AIRPORTS:

[HB 505](#) authorizes FAA-certified aviation technicians to repair and maintain privately owned aircraft in hangars at public airports or facilities.

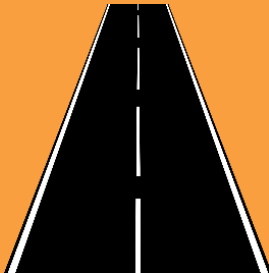
MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS:

[HB 476](#) allows an annual CPI-based increase to motor vehicle dealer fees, currently capped at \$425, for service functions incidental to the titling of the retail sales.

Traffic Violations



[HB 519](#) prohibits wireless device use while driving, with specified exceptions, penalties, and enforcement provisions.



[SB 11](#) increases the penalty for driving in the left lane and removes the 10 miles per hour or less stipulation for the offense.



[SB 99](#)

- requires local municipalities to post signs indicating the presence of automated speed enforcement devices or mobile speed cameras;
- limits use of automated speed enforcement devices and mobile cameras to lawfully posted school zones;
- prohibits issuing criminal fines or fees by mail as a result of automated speed enforcement devices or mobile speed cameras.
- adds intentional violation of prohibitions against unmanned traffic cameras or speed enforcement devices for the purpose of issuing citations by mail to the crime of malfeasance in office.

Crime

Hemp

- [HB 12](#) creates the crime of selling, distributing, dispensing, or otherwise delivering consumable hemp products to a person under the age of 21.
- [HB 36](#) grants a cause of action for damages when someone sells, administers, or furnishes consumable hemp products to a person under the age of 21.

Abortion

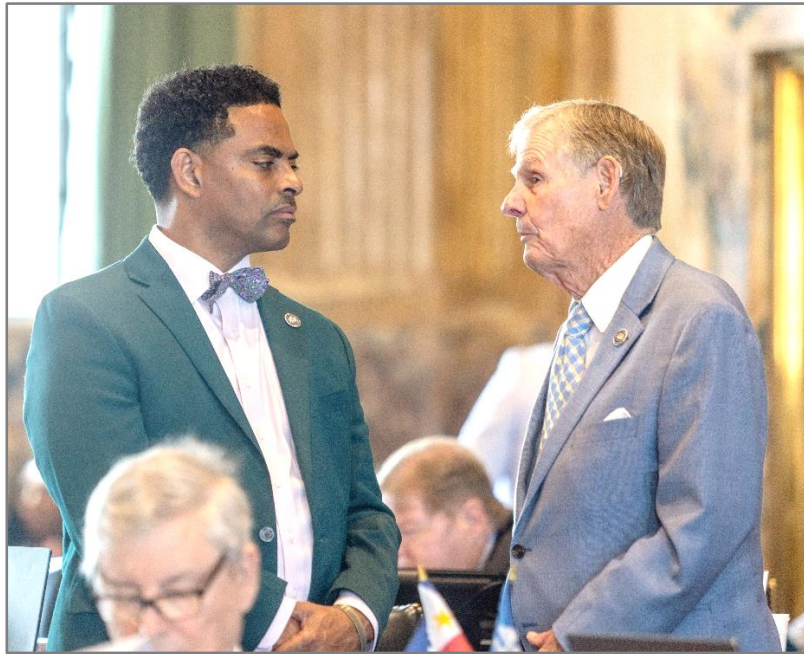
- [HB 425](#) amends the definition of coerced abortion to include battery, assault, simple kidnapping, false imprisonment, and extortion.
- [HB 575](#) enacts the “Justice for Victims of Abortion Drug Dealers Act,” which grants a cause of action to the mother of the unborn child for damages against any person or entity, as provided in proposed law, who knowingly performs or substantially facilitates an abortion.

New Crimes

- [SB 154](#) bans the possession or distribution of kratom.
- [SB 58](#) defines child grooming and adds grooming a child under age 17, where the offender is at least four years older than the child, as indecent behavior with juveniles.
- [HB 6](#) addresses misappropriation of funds in connection with utility services payments.
- [HB 49](#) prohibits unlawful posting of a record or recording of any testimony presented during an executive session of the Board of Pardons and committee on parole.
- [HB 176](#) bans the production, manufacture, distribution, or possession of products containing the hallucinogenic chemicals beta-phenyl-GABA, muscimol, or ibotenic acid.
- [HB 261](#) addresses unlawful use of an unmanned aircraft system at a parade. The “We Will Act’ Act” allows law enforcement officers to take mitigation measures against a threat posed by an unmanned aircraft system operating in a nefarious manner.



Criminal Justice



Handguns

- [HB 393](#) prohibits active parade participants or demonstrators from carrying a concealed handgun.
- [HB 407](#) removes the requirement that a person must be a Louisiana resident to obtain a concealed handgun permit in this state.

Victims

[HB 479](#) creates the “Crime Victims’ Bill of Rights” and requires the Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) to create a comprehensive victims’ services system to notify victims, witnesses, and designated family members of their rights and inform them of legal proceedings. Also specifies reporting procedures for escapes from parish prison facilities and jails.

Juveniles

[HB 445](#) prohibits juvenile criminal conduct records from being disseminated as a criminal background check to anyone outside of the criminal justice system; requires any access and use of juvenile criminal conduct information include an audit trail to maintain the integrity of the records and ensure accountability.

Criminal Justice

Sex Offenses

- [HB 5](#) aligns penalties for various prostitution-related offenses with the present penalty for trafficking of children for sexual purposes; requires notice of specialized services and the available treatments for sexually exploited persons be given to a victim of the crime of soliciting for prostitution.
 - [HB 67](#) specifies an additional circumstance that constitutes second degree rape; changes the list of applicable sex offenses that have a 30 year time limit to initiate prosecution once the underage victim attains age 18; increases the age for hearsay exceptions when the declarant is unavailable to age 13.
 - [HB 111](#) adds loitering within 500 feet of a location that is commonly used for the pickup or drop off of children for school, or for a school-related activity when a child is present, to the crimes of unlawful presence of a sex offender and of a sexually violent predator.
 - [HB 268](#) enacts "The Audrey Wascome Act" to amend terminology regarding pornography involving juveniles.
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Sentencing

- [HB 260](#) enacts "The Segus Jolivette Act," which includes resisting a police officer with force or violence within the list of offenses that may constitute second degree murder, and adds unlawful distribution of a controlled substance to the list of circumstances under which a person can be prosecuted for manslaughter.
- [HB 35](#) establishes a minimum mandatory sentence for certain hit and run driving offenses.
- [HB 14](#) adds cruelty to the elderly as a predicate felony for first and second degree murder.
- [SB 95](#) revises electronic monitoring services, including:
 - increasing penalties against providers who fail to timely report;
 - allowing a waiver of monitoring costs in juvenile matters or at the request of the responsible entity;
 - establishing fines and penalties for those who violate electronic monitoring conditions;
 - allowing the issuance of an arrest warrant upon a finding of noncompliance;
 - terminating participation in monitoring after a third noncompliance and ordering those monitored into state custody or pre-trial facilities.

Post Conviction

- [HB 675](#) revises post conviction relief procedures, including deadlines for courts handling post conviction applications, and restricts shell petitions.
- [HB 214](#) includes prohibited acts involving drug paraphernalia as a technical violation of probation and includes a felony conviction as grounds for mandatory probation revocation.
- [HB 23](#) requires all post-sentence statements be submitted to DPS&C and all criminal justice data be submitted through the Integrated Criminal Justice Information System.



- [HB 208](#) revises eligibility for parole and diminution of sentence:
 - requires no major disciplinary offense for 36 months prior to parole consideration;
 - prohibits a habitual or sex offender from earning diminution of sentence for good behavior;
 - defines a split sentence and specifies probationary period for offenders with a split sentence;
 - specifies procedures should an offender be convicted of an offense while on unsupervised parole;
 - creates the Deportation Eligibility Hearing Committee within the Board of Pardons.
- [HB 394](#) changes certain procedures relative to capital cases:
 - permits the presence of a spiritual advisor if requested by the convict at a death sentence execution;
 - allows the DPS&C secretary to determine the other witnesses present;
 - changes the earliest hour an execution can occur.

Constitutional Amendments

April 18, 2026



- ❑ [HB 63](#) increases the mandatory retirement age of judges to 75.
- ❑ [HB 366](#) authorizes a parish to exempt business inventory from ad valorem taxes or to reduce the percentage of fair market value applicable to business inventory.
- ❑ [HB 473](#) repeals the Louisiana Education Quality Trust Fund, the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund, and the Education Excellence Fund within the Millennium Trust. Monies from the repealed funds will combine with the state general fund to pay down the unfunded accrued liability of the Teachers' Retirement System.
- ❑ [SB 8](#) allows the legislature to remove or add officers, positions, and employees to the unclassified civil service.
- ❑ [SB 25](#) grants the St. George Community School System in East Baton Rouge Parish the same authority given to parishes for operating a school system.

November 3, 2026

- ❑ [HB 300](#) increases the income threshold for purposes of qualifying for the special assessment level.