Proposed law amends laws relating to emergency preparedness for state-licensed nursing homes. Proposed law creates the Nursing Home Emergency Preparedness Review Committee, and provides for purposes, duties, and composition of the committee. Proposed law requires each nursing home to utilize its emergency preparedness plan that was in effect on March 1, 2022 until an updated plan is developed. Proposed law requires each nursing home to develop an emergency preparedness plan that meets certain requirements. The plan should identify a primary evacuation site, proof of transportation to the site (contract), and staffing patterns for evacuation. The nursing facilities shall submit a copy of the plan to the local office of emergency preparedness and local office of evacuation site. Proposed law requires the local offices of emergency preparedness that receive an evacuation plan to review the plan and report any concerns or recommendations to the nursing home. All communication shall be electronic if available. Each nursing home shall update and revise its emergency preparedness plan to address and incorporate all recommendations that it receives from the local offices of emergency preparedness. Proposed law provides that each nursing home shall submit a full emergency evacuation plan to the Louisiana Department of Health in electronic format. The plan to the department shall include certain documents. Continued on page 2

**EXPENDITURES**

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**REVENUES**

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**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

LDH anticipates additional personnel and technology expenses associated with tracking, review, and management of emergency preparedness plans. Technology contract cost is associated with building and maintaining an emergency management technology system, as plans are required to be transmitted electronically.

$1,750,000 - Emergency Management Technology Contract ($1,750,000 in year 1 only, $175,000 annual maintenance cost)

$460,578 - Personnel - (4 surveyors, salary $307,052 and $153,526 related benefits)

Based on the legislation, LDH anticipates reviewing plans and inspecting two different evacuation sites per nursing home annually for approximately 257 nursing homes statewide. To the extent existing employees are used, projected personnel cost will be mitigated.

Information provided by the Office of the State Fire Marshall indicates any costs associated with inspections of non licensed sheltering sites is anticipated to be covered with existing staff and resources. This measure is not anticipated to have any expenditure impact on the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.
Proposed law requires LDH to review each nursing home emergency evacuation plan, and make recommendations as necessary. Proposed law requires LDH to review each nursing home emergency evacuation plan, and make recommendations as necessary, and for the nursing homes to incorporate changes if recommended. Proposed law requires each nursing home to review their emergency plans annually, and incorporate any state or federal licensing or regulation changes that may affect the plan. Proposed law further provides for requirements of the nursing homes if any changes, modifications, or amendments to the plan are necessary.

Proposed law provides the department to publish rules pertaining to emergency preparedness, after considering any recommendations by the Nursing Home Emergency Preparedness Review Committee. The department rules will have minimum requirements related to the content of the plans, the department review process, evacuation site details, and timelines and procedures for after action reports.

Proposed law requires local offices of emergency preparedness to inspect evacuation sites annually. In addition, the office of the state fire marshal shall inspect each sheltering site identified in the nursing home emergency plans. LDH may inspect and survey each site identified in the plan.

Proposed law requires each nursing home that evacuates residents from its licensed premises to submit an after-action report to the department, and in other situations. The department shall indicate through rules the information required in the after-action reports.