AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 33:2501.1 and to enact R.S. 33:2561.1, relative to certain municipal fire and police civil service boards; to authorize attorney fees for the appealing employee when a decision of the employee's appointing authority is reversed under certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 33:2501.1 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 33:2561.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2501.1. Authorization for awarding attorney fees

When an appeal is taken by an employee in the classified service pursuant to R.S. 33:2501 to a municipal fire and police civil service board and the board determines, in reversing the decision of the appointing authority, that the corrective or disciplinary action taken by the appointing authority was without just cause as provided in R.S. 33:2501, the board may award to the appealing employee attorney fees to be assessed against the appointing authority not to exceed one five thousand dollars in any one appeal.

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§2561.1. Authorization for awarding attorney fees

When an appeal is taken by an employee in the classified service pursuant to R.S. 33:2561 to a municipal, parish, or fire protection district fire and police civil service board and the board determines, in reversing the decision of the appointing authority, that the corrective or disciplinary action taken by the appointing authority was without just cause as provided in R.S. 33:2561, the board may award to the appealing employee attorney fees to be assessed against the appointing authority not to exceed five thousand dollars in any one appeal.
Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ____________