RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 526 (HB 1070) 2022 Regular Session Schexnayder

Existing law provides for the authorities and responsibilities of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP).

New law retains existing law and adds that GOHSEP shall do the following by Aug. 1, 2022:

1. Ensure the official state emergency management software system is accessible to certain entities and has specific capabilities regarding requests.

2. Develop an emergency management training program to be completed annually by local officials and employees identified by each parish president and at least once a term by members of the legislature.

3. Develop a program to provide temporary housing and shelter assistance to parish governing authorities within the first 14 days following a disaster.

4. Complete an inventory of portable generators owned by the state and local governments which are capable of operating during a major disaster.

New law provides requirements for GOHSEP to implement the temporary housing and shelter assistance program and for local governments to participate in the program. Eligibility for participation includes waiving certain land use regulations.

Prior law required GOHSEP to study the feasibility of pre-bidding certain contracts for disaster response services.

New law repeals prior law.

New law requires GOHSEP to coordinate with the office of state procurement and other state agencies to have certain prepositioned disaster contracts in place by Sept. 1, 2022, and no later than June 30th for each subsequent year.

New law requires GOHSEP to submit a list of all prepositioned contracts entered into for the current fiscal year to JLCB by July 15th of each year.

Existing law provides that the office of interoperability shall be headed by an assistant deputy director of interoperability.

New law relocates existing law under the existing law provision which provides relative to powers of a director.

New law requires the assistant deputy director of interoperability to provide an annual update to JLCB by August 1st of each year on upgrades made to the La. Wireless Information Network and resiliency and redundancy plans for the system.

New law creates the Emergency Communications Interoperability Fund to provide funding for the La. Wireless Information Network.

Existing law provides for state and local emergency operation plans that may include certain information.

New law retains existing law regarding the information included in the plans but makes the inclusion of the information mandatory.

Existing law requires each parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness to have a director appointed by the parish president and provides for responsibilities of the director.

New law requires each parish president to designate any parish, municipal, or special district employees the parish president deems necessary to be dedicated on a full-time basis to emergency preparedness and disaster response in the parish.
New law further requires the director to ensure that the employees so designated and any local officials deemed necessary by the parish president have received the annual emergency management training provided by GOHSEP.

Prior law provides for a disaster and emergency funding board.

New law repeals prior law.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 16, 2022).

(Amends R.S. 29:725(A), 725.5, 726(B)(intro. para.) and (F), and 729(B)(intro. para.) and (12); Adds R.S. 29:725(K), 726(G), and 728(G); Repeals R.S. 29:726(E)(25) and 731)