HB 526 Reengrossed	2025 Regular Session	Jacob Landry

Abstract: Provides that a website established and maintained by the commissioner of administration, rather than a daily newspaper, shall be the official journal of the state and requires the commissioner to post certain information about boards and commissions on it.

Present law provides that the printing of advertisements, public notices, proclamations, and all public notices and advertising to be done by the legislature, or the executive or other departments and institutions of the state government, shall be published in a daily newspaper that is designated as the "Official Journal of the State". Provides for the cost of publication in such newspaper and for contracts and bids relative to printing in such newspaper. Proposed law removes all present law relative to this newspaper and instead provides that the state's official journal shall be a website established and maintained by the commissioner of administration.

Present constitution (Art. X, §29) provides that no proposal to effect any change in existing laws or constitutional provisions relating to any retirement system for public employees shall be introduced in the legislature unless notice of intention to introduce the proposal has been published, without cost to the state, in the official state journal on two separate days.

Proposed law provides that for purposes of present constitution, the commissioner of administration shall promulgate rules and fees to provide for the publication of retirement notices on the Official Journal of the State by any person, without cost to the state.

Present law requires the commissioner of administration to establish and maintain a website containing specific information that specific boards, commissions, and like entities (and committees, subcommittees, and panels thereof) are required to submit for posting on the website, such as meeting notices and minutes; contact information; employee information; laws pertaining to its creation, membership, and powers; and financial and budget information. Proposed law retains present law except for the following:

(1) Applies all present law provisions pertaining to this website to the proposed law website serving as the state's official journal.

(2) Changes application of present law to include each board, commission, and like entity created by law or executive order that is made a part of the executive branch of state government by law, or that is placed in an executive branch department or in the office of the governor or lieutenant governor by law or executive order, or that exercises any authority or performs any function of the executive branch of state government and committees,

subcommittees, and panels thereof.

(3)   Adds audio and video recordings of meetings required to be made available pursuant to present law to the list of information required to be submitted and posted.

Proposed law directs the La. State Law Institute to redesignate certain present law provisions that are being amended and reenacted by proposed law and to make conforming revisions throughout present law and proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 43:81 and R.S. 49:1301-1308; Repeals R.S. 42:19(A)(2)(c) and R.S. 43:81.1-90)
Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1.   Require the commissioner of administration to promulgate rules and fees to provide for the publication of retirement notices on the official journal of the state, without cost to the state.

2.   Make technical changes.