

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 562

BY REPRESENTATIVES FONTENOT, BRYANT, CARRIER, FIRMENT, GLORIOSO,
JORDAN, TAYLOR, AND THOMPSON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

FIRE PROTECT/FIRE DEPTS: Provides relative to costs for certain emergency services provided by fire departments, fire protection districts, and certain nonprofit corporations

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Subpart A-1 of Part II of Chapter 4 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes
3 of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 33:1980.1, relative to fire departments, fire
4 protection districts, and certain nonprofit corporations; to provide relative to
5 emergency services provided by such departments, districts, and nonprofit
6 corporations; to provide for reimbursement of certain costs; and to provide for
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. Subpart A-1 of Part II of Chapter 4 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised
10 Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 33:1980.1, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 SUBPART A-1. FIRE DEPARTMENTS; CERTAIN NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS;

12 SERVICES; COSTS

13 §1980.1. Fire departments; certain nonprofit corporations; costs for certain
14 emergency services

15 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any parish or
16 municipal fire department, or any fire protection district, volunteer fire department,
17 or nonprofit corporation under contract with a fire protection district to provide
18 emergency services may seek reimbursement for the reasonable cost of automobile
19 extraction services provided to individuals involved in motor vehicle accidents.

1 Costs for automobile extraction services may be recovered from the owner of the
2 vehicle requiring extraction services or the party whose negligence was a cause in
3 fact of the accident which caused the need for vehicle extraction services.

4 B. Any fire department, fire protection district, or nonprofit corporation
5 seeking reimbursement for costs pursuant to this Section for automobile extraction
6 services shall submit an itemized invoice with corresponding receipts and an
7 explanation of each service for which payment is requested. Costs consistent with
8 the values published in schedules by the Federal Emergency Management Agency
9 for the use of extraction equipment and associated services shall be presumed to be
10 reasonable; provided however, costs for equipment, supplies, or other items or
11 services which are part of the normal operating budget of the department or that
12 supplement the department's existing budget beyond actual allowable costs for
13 actions taken as provided in this Section shall not be allowed.

14 C.(1) The governing board of any fire department, fire protection district, or
15 nonprofit corporation seeking reimbursement for its costs pursuant to this Section for
16 automobile extraction services may use any reasonable means to collect and enforce
17 the collection of such costs.

18 (2) In any lawsuit to enforce the collection of such costs, the governing
19 board of the fire department, fire protection district, or nonprofit corporation may
20 recover court costs and reasonable attorney fees.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 562 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Fontenot

Abstract: Authorizes fire departments, fire protection districts, and certain nonprofit corporations to seek reimbursement for providing certain emergency services.

Proposed law authorizes fire departments, fire protection districts, and nonprofit corporations under contract with a fire protection district to provide emergency services to seek reimbursement for the reasonable cost of automobile extraction services provided to individuals involved in motor vehicle accidents. Provides that costs for automobile extraction services may be recovered from the owner of the vehicle requiring extraction services or the party whose negligence was a cause in fact of the accident which caused the need for vehicle extraction services.

Proposed law requires fire departments, fire protection districts, or nonprofit corporations who are seeking reimbursement to submit an itemized invoice with corresponding receipts and an explanation of each service for which payment is requested. Provides that costs consistent with the values published in schedules by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the use of extraction equipment and associated services shall be presumed to be reasonable. Prohibits the reimbursement of costs for equipment, supplies, or services which are a part of the normal operating budget or that supplement the existing budget beyond actual allowable costs. Authorizes the fire departments, fire protection districts, and nonprofit corporations to use any reasonable means to collect and enforce the collection of such costs.

(Adds R.S. 33:1980.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Authorize nonprofit corporations under contract with a fire protection district to provide emergency services to seek reimbursement pursuant to proposed law.
2. Require nonprofit corporations to submit an itemized invoice with corresponding receipts and an explanation of each service for which payment is requested.
3. Authorize nonprofit corporations to use any reasonable means to collect and enforce the collection of costs.
4. Authorize fire departments, fire protection districts, or nonprofit corporations to seek reimbursement from the automobile insurance company of the individual at fault for a motor vehicle accident for medical costs incurred as the result of a motor vehicle accident.
5. Remove provisions that authorize fire departments or fire protection districts to seek reimbursement from an emergency service provider for emergency services provided at the request of the emergency service provider.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove proposed law provisions that authorize fire departments and nonprofit corporations to seek reimbursement for the costs of medical services provided to an individual.
2. Remove proposed law provisions that authorize fire departments and nonprofit corporations to seek reimbursement from automobile insurance companies.
3. Authorize fire departments and nonprofit corporations to seek reimbursement for automobile extraction services from the owner of the vehicle requiring extraction services or the party whose negligence was a cause in fact of the accident.
4. Provide for the calculation of reimbursement costs based on certain values published in schedules by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
5. Limit reimbursement to the *reasonable* costs for services provided.
6. Prohibit the reimbursement of costs for equipment, supplies, or services which are a part of the normal operating budget or that supplement the existing budget beyond actual allowable costs.