

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 732

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

MTR VEHICLE/OFFICE: Provides for a temporary waiver of fees for final delinquent debt based on special circumstances

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 32:8(E), relative to delinquent debt owed to the office of motor vehicles; to  
3 require the commissioner to temporarily waive or suspend fines, fees, penalties, or  
4 license suspensions for emergency reasons; to provide for the verification of a  
5 life-threatening condition; to provide for the authority of the commissioner; to  
6 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 32:8(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §8. Final delinquent debt; office of motor vehicles; temporary waivers and holds

10 \* \* \*

11 E.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
12 commissioner, or his designee, shall have emergency authority to temporarily waive  
13 or place on hold, for a period not to exceed thirty days, any fine, fee, penalty, or  
14 license suspension appearing on a person’s driving record when the commissioner  
15 determines that such action is necessary to allow the person immediate access to  
16 life-sustaining medicine or medical treatment.

17 (2) The person or their representative shall provide documentation from a  
18 licensed physician, hospital, hospice, or other home health provider verifying the  
19 life-threatening nature of the condition.

20 (3) The commissioner shall have full authority to reduce or eliminate any  
21 obligation as provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

1           (4) For the purposes of this Subsection, "commissioner" means the  
 2           commissioner of the office of motor vehicles.

3           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
 4 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
 5 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
 6 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
 7 effective on the day following such approval.

#### 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 732 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Owen

**Abstract:** Grants the commissioner of the office of motor vehicles, or his designee, the authority to temporarily waive or suspend certain fines, fees, penalties, or license suspensions for up to 30 days to allow a person access to life sustaining medicine or treatment and to reduce or eliminate any obligation.

Present law (R.S. 32:8) allows the office of motor vehicles (OMV) to refer debts that are past due 180 days and final for collection through the Office of Debt Recovery, while notifying debtors of payment options and possible fees. Authorizes the OMV to adopt rules for referrals and, through the commissioner, compromise or settle debts to reduce collection costs.

Proposed law retains present law but grants the commissioner of the OMV, or his designee, emergency authority to temporarily waive or suspend fines, fees, penalties, or license suspensions for up to 30 days to allow access to life-sustaining medical treatment, with documentation from a healthcare provider. Additionally, grants the commissioner full authority to reduce or eliminate any obligation.

Proposed law defines "commissioner" as the commissioner of the OMV for purposes of proposed law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 32:8(E))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

##### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove a provision that specified that any waiver or hold did not forgive the underlying obligation and required a written decision.
2. Define "commissioner" as the commissioner of the office of motor vehicles for purposes of proposed law.

3. Clarify that the commissioner has the full authority to reduce or eliminate an obligation.
4. Make technical changes.