

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 790 (HB 258)

2026 Regular Session

Beaulieu

Existing law (R.S. 42:61 et seq.) regulates dual officeholding and dual employment in order to prevent conflicts of interest and to promote and maintain citizen trust in government. Prohibits certain specific combinations of public office and employment, including a prohibition against holding a full-time appointive office or full-time employment in the government of La. or of a political subdivision thereof and at the same time holding another full-time appointive office or full-time employment in the government of the state, in the government of a political subdivision thereof, or in a combination of these. Further prohibits a person holding an elective office in a political subdivision of this state from at the same time holding another elective office or full-time appointive office in the government of this state or in the government of a political subdivision thereof. Provides that no such person shall hold at the same time employment in the government of this state, or in the same political subdivision in which he holds an elective office.

Existing law (R.S. 18:64) additionally prohibits a person from holding a combination of offices and employments that are determined to be incompatible because of the existence of certain conditions set forth in existing law.

New law provides the following additional general exceptions:

- (1) For members or officers of a volunteer fire department or a combination fire department.
- (2) For members, appointees, designees, or officers of any unpaid advisory committee, project, working group, or commission.

Existing law (R.S. 42:63) provides that no person holding office or employment in one branch of the state government shall at the same time hold another office or employment in any other branch of the state government.

New law provides that existing law does not prohibit a person holding employment in the judicial branch, including as judge ad hoc or pro tempore, from holding at the same time a part-time appointive office in another branch as a designee or appointed member or officer of any board, committee, task force, or commission.

Existing law (R.S. 42:66(B)) provides that a school teacher or person employed in a professional educational capacity in a grade school, high school, other educational institution, parish or city school board may also serve as an elected or appointed official.

New law further provides that a person employed in a professional educational capacity in this state may also serve as an engineer, researcher, or related employee of the federal government concerning healthcare, science, or technology, including for any collaborative program between the federal government and a public higher education institution.

New law provides that "person employed in a professional educational capacity" includes any person holding appointive office or employment related to or directly affecting the curriculum or educational programs offered by the institution or in a role requiring professional judgment and responsibility in furtherance of the institution's educational mission.

Existing law (R.S. 42:1132) provides that no public employee, except a person who is a public employee solely because of his service as a member of the board, shall serve as a member of the La. Board of Ethics and no former public employee shall serve as a member of the board within six months of the termination of his employment.

New law provides that a person serving as a judge ad hoc and compensated on a per diem basis shall not be considered a public employee for the purposes of membership on the La. Board of Ethics.

Existing law (R.S. 42:63) provides that no person holding an elective office, appointive office, or employment in any of the branches of state government or of a political subdivision

thereof shall at the same time hold another elective office, appointive office, or employment in the government of the United States.

New law provides that a qualified court reporter who holds employment in the federal government may serve at the same time as a court reporter for a court in the judicial branch of this state or of a local governmental subdivision.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 9, 2026).

(Amends R.S. 42:66(B); Adds R.S. 42:66(A)(11) and (12), (Q), and (R))