

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 857 (HB 956)

2026 Regular Session

Fontenot

Prior and existing law provides relative to fireworks.

Prior and existing law provides for definitions.

New law amends the definitions of "proximate display", "public display", "pyrotechnic operator", and "pyrotechnic special effects operator" and repeals definitions of "Class C public display" and "pyrotechnic operator".

Prior law prohibited certain types of fireworks from being possessed, used, or sold in this state.

New law provides that only items classified as 1.4G fireworks in compliance with American Pyrotechnics Association Standard 87-1A may be sold by a properly licensed retailer to the public.

Existing law authorizes permissible items of fireworks to be sold at retail only from noon on June 16th through midnight on July 5th and noon on Dec. 15th through midnight on Jan. 1st of each calendar year.

New law retains existing law but changes the beginning time for sales to commence from noon to 7:00 a.m.

New law allows the sale of fireworks from 7:00 a.m. on the Tuesday prior to Memorial Day through midnight on Memorial Day and from 7:00 a.m. on the Tuesday prior to Labor Day until midnight on Labor Day.

Existing law provides that a licensee whose license has expired for two years or more and makes application for a new license shall retake and pass the written examination to receive a renewed license.

New law provides that a licensee in that circumstance shall instead receive a new license.

Prior law provided that the fee for a new license is \$50 and the fee for a license renewal is \$25.

New law clarifies that the license is for a pyrotechnic operator, pyrotechnic special effects operator, or blaster and increases the fees to \$200 for a new license and \$100 for a renewal.

Prior law provided for requirements to make a Class C public display and for licensing to make such a display.

New law repeals the requirements for Class C public displays and licensing.

Prior law provided requirements for a permit application for a Class C display, public display, or proximate display of fireworks.

New law removes requirements for Class C public displays and new law adds the requirement for public displays or proximate displays to have a current certificate of insurance issued to the state fire marshal showing general liability coverage in the amount of one million dollars.

Prior law provided an application fee for a public display or proximate display permit of \$100, and a \$25 fee for a Class C public display permit.

New law provides for a \$200 fee for public display or proximate display, and a \$100 fee for renewal of that permit. New law removes the fee for a Class C public display.

Existing law provides that the state fire marshal may promulgate rules and regulations regarding public displays, proximate displays, and Class C displays.

New law removes the reference to Class C displays but otherwise retains existing law.

New law prohibits direct-to-consumer shipment, mailing, or delivery of consumer fireworks by any licensee, out-of-state seller, common carrier, broker, third-party, or person.

Prior law provided for a \$100 permit fee for a retailer.

New law increases the fee to \$250.

New law provides that it is unlawful for any person to purchase fireworks from a wholesaler, manufacturer, assembler, distributor, importer, or jobber without first obtaining a valid retail permit issued by the state fire marshal.

Existing law provides that no manufacturer, assembler, distributor, importer, jobber, or retailer shall operate within this state without a proper permit.

New law retains existing law and adds that a wholesaler, manufacturer, assembler, distributor, importer, jobber, or retailer within this state, or any common carrier, broker, third-party, or other person shall not sell for delivery or cause to be delivered any consumer fireworks within this state.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 51:650(23), (24), (26), and (28), 651.1(B), 652 (B), 655(C)(3) and (8), (E), (G), and (H)(1), 656(A), (C)(1), and (E), and 658(A); Adds R.S. 51:656(F); Repeals R.S. 51:650(6) and (27) and 655(D))