

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS****HB 539****2018 Regular Session****Leger**

FEES/LICENSES/PERMITS: Provides for an expedited licensing process and associated fees for facilities and providers licensed by the La. Department of Health

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Deletes proposed law providing for a three-tiered schedule of expedited licensing fees for various healthcare facilities and providers licensed by the La. Dept. of Health (LDH).
2. Authorizes LDH to implement an expedited licensing process for healthcare facilities through administrative rulemaking.
3. Provides that the amount of the expedited license fee shall not exceed \$7,500.
4. Requires LDH to either conduct the expedited licensing survey within ten days of the date the applicant has indicated readiness or refund the expedited licensing fee.
5. Prohibits LDH from utilizing its existing employees to perform expedited licensing survey.
6. Stipulates that facilities undergoing a pre-licensure facility need review process shall not be affected by a provider of the same license type choosing the expedited licensing survey process.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Proposed law requires the La. Department of Health (LDH) to implement, through administrative rulemaking, an expedited licensing process for healthcare facilities and providers that the department licenses.

Proposed law provides that the fee for the expedited licensing process shall not exceed \$7,500 and shall be payable to LDH at the time an expedited licensing application is submitted by a healthcare facility or provider.

Proposed law provides that after LDH receives and approves the completed expedited licensing application, the department shall notify the applicant to provide a readiness date for the expedited license survey. Requires LDH to conduct the expedited licensing survey within ten working days of the readiness date indicated by the facility or provider and in accordance with applicable rules of the department.

Proposed law requires LDH to refund the expedited licensing fee if the expedited licensing survey is not conducted within the ten-day time period specified in proposed law, unless the failure to conduct the survey is due to the unavailability of the facility or provider.

Proposed law prohibits LDH from utilizing existing employees who conduct regular licensing surveys to conduct any expedited licensing survey.

Proposed law requires LDH to ensure that no facility or provider seeking approval to apply for licensure pursuant to a pre-licensing facility need review process is affected by another provider of the same license type choosing the expedited licensing process instead of the regular licensing process.

Proposed law requires LDH to submit a written report to the legislative committees on health and welfare on or before Feb. 1, 2019, regarding implementation of the expedited licensing process authorized by proposed law.

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

(Adds R.S. 40:2006.2)