DIGEST

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HB 94 Original

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Exempts certain businesses impacted by COVID-19 from paying license renewal fees for six months following the termination of the declared state of emergency.

<u>Proposed law</u> exempts certain businesses from paying license renewal fees attributable to business operations for six months following the termination of the COVID-19 declared state of emergency.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the businesses to meet the following criteria to qualify for the exemption:

- (1) Had a physical and active operation in La. as of March 1, 2020.
- (2) Had 50 or fewer full-time equivalent employees as of March 1, 2020.
- (3) Is not a subsidiary of a business with more than 50 full-time equivalent employees, not part of a larger business enterprise with more than 50 full-time equivalent employees, and is not owned by a business with more than 50 full-time equivalent employees.
- (4) Ceased operations or suffered an interruption in business due to one of the governor's emergency proclamations related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- (5) Falls under one of the following North American Industry Classification System categories:
- (a) Furniture Stores

(g) Book Stores and News Dealers

(b) Home Furnishings Stores

(h) Florists

(c) Clothing Stores

(i) Office Supplies, Stationery, and Gift Stores

- (d) Shoe Stores
- (e) Jewelry, Luggage, and Leather Goods Stores
- (f) Sporting Goods, Hobby, and Musical Instrument Stores

- (j) Used Merchandise Stores
- (k) Other Miscellaneous Store Retailers
- (1) Performing Arts Companies
- (m) Amusement Parks and Arcades
- (n) Other Amusement and Recreation Industries
- (o) Special Food Services
- (p) Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)
- (q) Restaurants and Other Eating Places
- (r) Personal Care Services

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the division of administration to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) by Dec.1, 2020, indicating each agency fee which has been exempted.

<u>Proposed law</u> allows JLCB to further extend any fee exemption pursuant to <u>proposed law</u> by an additional 6 months by a vote of 2/3 of the committee.

(Adds R.S. 29:732.1)