The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Leonore Heavey.

DIGEST

SB 185 Original | 2022 Regular Session | Henry

Present law with regard to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, defines "first responder" as a volunteer engaged in activities involving the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness pursuant to R.S. 29:721 et seq. and "first responders" as defined in R.S. 29:723, including medical personnel, emergency and medical technicians, volunteer firemen, auxiliary law enforcement officers, state agency essential workers, emergency service dispatchers, and emergency response operators, and members of the Civil Air Patrol.

Present law also provides that "first responder" means the first arriving organized responders with the capability and mission to contain, mitigate, and resolve the emergency at hand.

Present law also provides that "first responder" refers to those individuals who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment, as well as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and other skilled support personnel, such as equipment operators that provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations.

Proposed law provides that "electrical lineman" be included in the definition of "first responder".

Proposed law defines "electrical lineman" as a person employed to install, maintain, or repair electrical transmission and power distribution systems for the purpose of being allowed first access to the scene of an emergency and not for purposes of monetary or health benefits.

Proposed law provides that electrical linemen shall be considered first responders only during weather emergencies as declared by the governor pursuant to R.S. 29:721 et seq.

Proposed law further provides that nothing in proposed law shall relieve an employer of its responsibilities pursuant to C.C. Art. 2320.

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

(Amends R.S. 23:1017.1(6) and R.S. 29:739(C); adds R.S. 29:723(20))