

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 437

BY SENATOR MIGUEZ

CORONERS. Provides relative to payment of fees for coroner emergency certificates.
(8/1/24)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 28:53(G)(6), relative to payment of fees for coroner emergency
3 certificates; to provide for penalties for a noncompliant parish; to provide for
4 technical changes; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 28:53(G)(6) is hereby amended and reenacted as follows:

7 §53. Admission by emergency certificate; extension; payment for services rendered

8 * * *

9 G. * * *

10 **(6)(a)** When a person is confined in a treatment facility other than a state
11 psychiatric hospital, the examining coroner in the parish where the patient is
12 confined shall be entitled to the usual fee paid for this service to the coroner of the
13 parish in which the patient is domiciled or residing.

14 **(b)** When a person is confined in a state psychiatric hospital in a parish other
15 than his parish of domicile or residence, the examining coroner shall be entitled to
16 the fee authorized by law in his parish for the service.

17 **(c)(i)** In either case, the fee shall be paid and accurate records of such

1 payments kept by the governing authority of the parish in which the patient is
2 domiciled or residing from parish funds designated for the purpose of payment to the
3 coroner. Each coroner shall keep accurate records showing the number of patients
4 confined in his parish pursuant to this Section.

5 **(ii) If any parish governing authority of a parish with a population**
6 **between three hundred eighty thousand and three hundred eighty five thousand**
7 **according to the latest federal decennial census fails to remit payment for the**
8 **coroner emergency certificate fees as required by this Paragraph, the parish**
9 **governing authority shall be precluded from seeking approval of any additional**
10 **debt authority from the State Bond Commission and receiving an appropriation**
11 **from the capital outlay program, administered by the division of**
12 **administration, office of facility planning and control, until such time as the**
13 **coroner emergency certificate fees are remitted as provided in this Paragraph.**

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

DIGEST

SB 437 Original

2024 Regular Session

Miguez

Present law provides that when a person is confined in a treatment facility other than a state psychiatric hospital, the examining coroner in the parish where the patient is confined be entitled to the usual fee paid for this service to the coroner of the parish in which the patient is domiciled or residing.

Present law provides that when a person is confined in a state psychiatric hospital in a parish other than his parish of domicile or residence, the examining coroner be entitled to the fee authorized by law in his parish for the service.

Present law requires fees paid to coroners and accurate records of such payments be kept by the governing authority of the parish in which the patient is domiciled or residing from parish funds designated for the purpose of payment to the coroner. Present law requires each coroner to keep accurate records showing the number of patients confined in his parish pursuant to this present law.

Proposed law requires that if any parish governing authority of a parish with a population between 380,000 and 385,000 based on the latest federal decennial census fails to remit payment for the coroner emergency certificate fees that they are obligated to pay pursuant to present law, the parish governing authority be precluded from seeking approval of any additional debt authority from the State Bond Commission and receiving an appropriation from the capital outlay program, administered by the division of administration, office of facility planning and control, until such time as the coroner emergency certificate fees are paid.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 28:53(G)(6))