DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

SB 452 Reengrossed 2024 Regular Session McMath

<u>Present law</u> provides for qualifications and duties of coroners.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds additional qualifications and duties of the coroner of St. Tammany Parish.

<u>Present law</u> requires the sheriff of St. Tammany Parish to receive all tax revenues collected from ad valorem taxes for coroner purposes and to deposit the revenues into a special account with the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to be advanced to the coroner.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals <u>present law</u> and requires the governing authority to receive the tax revenues and to deposit the revenues into a special account to be managed by the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the St. Tammany Parish coroner's office to transfer all funds on hand received from the tax to the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish, minus an amount determined by the St. Tammany Parish Department of Finance to allow for operations through calendar year 2024.

<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes the governing authority to retain funds for administrative fees and costs, including expert fees and costs of investigations and audits associated with its oversight authority.

<u>Present law</u> requires the coroner to be responsible for all salaries and operational expenses of the St. Tammany Parish coroner's office.

<u>Present law</u> requires the coroner to receive a salary set by the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish and authorizes the coroner to set the salaries for his staff.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but requires funding for salaries associated with the operation of the coroner's office to be paid from the special account.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish and the St. Tammany Parish coroner's office to enter into a restated cooperative endeavor agreement that includes certain provisions provided in <u>proposed law</u>.

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

(Adds R.S. 13:5771-5773; Repeals R.S. 13:5726)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

- 1. Makes technical changes.
- 2. Deletes provision that authorizes the St. Tammany Parish Council to proceed with disciplinary action or assess fines against the coroner, if the council finds that the coroner is not acting in the best interests of the parish.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Technical legislative bureau amendments.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

- The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Judiciary</u> to the <u>reengrossed</u> bill:
- 1. Add expert fees and costs of investigations and audits to the funds retained by the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish for costs associated with the oversight of the coroner's office.