2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 449

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARLSON, BAMBURG, BERAULT, CARVER, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, GALLE, GLORIOSO, HEBERT, HENRY, AND MELERINE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ATTORNEYS/FEES: Provides relative to fees reasonably expected to be earned by an attorney

| 1 | AN ACT |
|----|---|
| 2 | To enact R.S. 37:218(C), relative to fees collected by attorneys; to require an attorney to |
| 3 | disclose his interest with the court in certain circumstances; to provide for penalties; |
| 4 | and to provide for related matters. |
| 5 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: |
| 6 | Section 1. R.S. 37:218(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows: |
| 7 | §218. Contract for fee based on proportion of subject matter; stipulation concerning |
| 8 | compromise, discontinuance, or settlement |
| 9 | * * * |
| 10 | C.(1) If an attorney can reasonably expect to earn a fee equal to or exceeding |
| 11 | one thousand dollars, the attorney shall file a disclosure of his interest in the case |
| 12 | with the court. |
| 13 | (2) If an attorney in his individual capacity, or through an interest in a |
| 14 | business entity, can reasonably expect to earn an amount equal to or exceeding one |
| 15 | thousand dollars from the recovery in a case, the attorney shall file a disclosure of |
| 16 | his interest in the case with the court. |
| 17 | (3) If an attorney violates the provisions of this Subsection, he shall be |
| 18 | subject to sanctions by the court, and the clerk of court in which the case is filed shall |

2

1 file a complaint against the attorney for the violation with the Louisiana Attorney

Disciplinary Board.

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)]

HB 449 Original 2025 Regular Session

Carlson

Abstract: Provides relative to disclosure of an attorney's interest in a case in certain circumstances.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that if an attorney reasonably expects to earn a fee equal to or exceeding \$1,000, the attorney shall file a disclosure of his interest in the case with the court.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that if an attorney in his individual capacity or through an interest in a business entity reasonably expects to earn an amount equal to or exceeding \$1,000, the attorney shall file a disclosure of his interest in the case with the court.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that if an attorney violates <u>proposed law</u> he shall be subject to sanctions by the court, and the clerk of court in which the case is filed shall file a complaint against the attorney for the violation with the La. Attorney Disciplinary Board.

(Adds R.S. 37:218(C))