

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 672

BY REPRESENTATIVES OWEN AND SCHAMERHORN

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Provides for matters related to brick manufacturing

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Part VI of Chapter 3 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be  
3 comprised of R.S. 51:971 through 972, relative to brick manufacturing; to provide  
4 legislative findings and purpose; to provide for permissions of Louisiana Economic  
5 Development; to provide incentives for brick manufacturing; and to provide for  
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. Part VI of Chapter 3 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
9 comprised of R.S. 51:971 through 972, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 PART VI. BOLSTERING BRICK MANUFACTURING IN LOUISIANA ACT

11 §971. Findings; purpose

12 A. The legislature finds that brick manufacturing has been integral to this  
13 state's economy since its earliest days, yet this state currently ranks thirty-third  
14 nationally in clay brick production despite possessing substantial clay deposits,  
15 favorable natural gas pricing, superior port and rail infrastructure, and an  
16 experienced manufacturing workforce. The legislature declares that expanding this  
17 industry would create quality manufacturing jobs, increase supply of and demand for  
18 locally-sourced building materials, and position this state to capture a greater share  
19 of regional and national markets.

1           B. It is the purpose of this Act to bolster the establishment of brick  
2           manufacturing facilities in this state by reducing regulatory barriers, lowering entry  
3           costs, and providing targeted support to qualifying enterprises, thereby enabling this  
4           state to leverage its natural resources and infrastructure for the benefit of local  
5           workers and this state's economic competitiveness.

6           §972. Brick manufacturing; definitions; priority industry; rail and port access

7           A. Louisiana Economic Development may support the recruitment, retention,  
8           and expansion of brick manufacturing facilities in this state within existing statutory  
9           authority and subject to the availability of funds.

10           B. In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Louisiana  
11           Economic Development may develop policies, guidance, or program criteria  
12           consistent with existing economic development programs, when appropriate and  
13           within existing authority, including but not limited to the following:

14           (1) Identifying sites that possess characteristics suitable for brick  
15           manufacturing operations, such as proximity to clay deposits, for pre-certification.

16           (2) Establishing specialized workforce development and training initiatives  
17           for brick manufacturing.

18           (3) Developing job creation and hiring initiatives for brick manufacturing  
19           enterprises.

20           (4) Providing clear regulatory pathways for the establishment of brick  
21           manufacturing facilities throughout this state.

22           (5) Coordinating with ports, rail providers, and local governments regarding  
23           infrastructure needs associated with brick manufacturing projects.

24           (6) Other lawful economic development activities consistent with this Part  
25           and existing programs.

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**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)]

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HB 672 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Owen

**Abstract:** Permits La. Economic Development to support recruitment, retention, and expansion of brick manufacturing facilities in this state within existing authority and subject to the availability of funds.

Proposed law provides legislative findings and purpose.

Proposed law permits La. Economic Development to support recruitment, retention, and expansion of brick manufacturing facilities in this state within existing authority and subject to the availability of funds, and to develop policies consistent with existing economic development programs, when appropriate and within existing authority, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Identifying sites that possess characteristics suitable for brick manufacturing operations, such as proximity to clay deposits, for pre-certification.
- (2) Establishing specialized workforce development and training initiatives for brick manufacturing.
- (3) Developing job creation and hiring initiatives for brick manufacturing enterprises.
- (4) Providing clear regulatory pathways for the establishment of brick manufacturing facilities throughout this state.
- (5) Coordinating with ports, rail providers, and local governments regarding infrastructure needs associated with brick manufacturing projects.
- (6) Other lawful economic development activities consistent with proposed law and existing programs.

(Adds R.S. 51:971-972)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Amend proposed law mandating that La. Economic Development (LED) prioritize brick manufacturing to permitting LED to support recruitment, retention, and expansion of brick manufacturing facilities in this state within existing authority and subject to the availability of funds, and to develop policies consistent with existing economic development programs, when appropriate and within existing authority.
3. Amend proposed law directing LED to promulgate related rules and regulations, including prioritizing brick manufacturing enterprises for access to this state's rail lines and port facilities and any and all other related economic development initiatives, to permitting LED to develop policies, guidance, or program criteria,

including coordinating with ports and rail regarding infrastructure needs of brick manufacturers, and other lawful economic development activities consistent with proposed law and existing programs.