

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 553

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARLSON AND CHASSION

ASSESSORS: Increases the membership of the assessor's certification program committee and provides for educational requirements for certification and recertification of assessors

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 47:1907(E), (F)(1)(a) and (b), and (G)(1), relative to assessors;
3 to increase the membership of the assessors' certification program committee; to
4 provide for committee member qualifications; to expand the courses eligible to meet
5 the educational requirements for the assessors' professional certification program;
6 to expand courses eligible to meet educational requirements for the recertification
7 of assessors; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 47:1907(E), (F)(1)(a) and (b), and (G)(1) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted to read as follows:

11 §1907. Salaries

12 * * *

13 E. The assessors' certification program committee, hereinafter referred to as
14 the "certification committee", is hereby created to govern the assessors' professional
15 certification program. The certification committee shall be composed of ~~five~~ eleven
16 members who shall serve one-year terms and who may be reappointed. The
17 members shall be appointed as follows:

18 (1) One member shall be the ~~chairman of the education committee~~ Education
19 Coordinator of the Louisiana Assessors Association who shall serve as chairman of
20 the certification committee.

1 by passing a written examination. The remaining hours shall be selected from
2 recertification guidelines as adopted by the certification committee. All designees
3 shall obtain recertification within a five-year period.

4 (b) A minimum of seventy-four hours of continuing education offered by the
5 International Association of Assessing Officers or the Appraisal Institute, which
6 shall include the International Association of Assessing Officers Workshop 151
7 Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) course, the
8 Workshop 191 National USPAP Update, or an approved Appraisal Foundation one
9 or two-day Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) course
10 and at least one course, thirty hours minimum, on appraisal of property, for which
11 no written examination shall be required. The remaining hours shall be selected
12 from recertification guidelines as adopted by the certification committee. All
13 designees shall obtain recertification within a five-year period.

14 * * *

15 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

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 553 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Carlson

Abstract: Increases the membership of the assessors' certification committee from five to 11 members and expands courses eligible to meet educational requirements for certification and recertification of assessors.

Present law establishes the membership of the assessors' certification committee, totaling five members, as follows:

- (1) The chairman of the education committee of the La. Assessors' Association, who serves as chairman of the certification committee.
- (2) One member appointed by the La. Tax Commission.
- (3) Two certified La. assessors appointed by the president of the La. Assessors' Association.
- (4) One deputy assessor appointed by the president of the La. Assessors' Association.

Proposed law increases the membership of the assessors' certification committee from 5 members to 11 members by adding an additional member appointed by the La. Tax Commission and increasing the number of assessors and deputy assessors appointed by the president of the La. Assessors' Association from a total of three to eight. Further provides that the president of the La. Assessors' Association must appoint at least one member from each of the eight Board of Director districts established by the La. Assessors' Association.

Present law requires an assessor to receive a passing grade on the examination for education courses, including the Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal and the Income Approach to Valuation or equivalent courses offered by the Appraisal Institute in order to be a certified assessor.

Proposed law retains present law but changes the educational course an assessor must pass in order to be certified from the Income Approach to Valuation to Assessment Administration.

Present law requires an assessor to obtain recertification by completing at least 59 hours of continuing education courses offered by the International Association of Assessing Officers or the Appraisal Institute and at least one course, 30 hours minimum, on appraisal of property which requires the passage of a written exam. Alternatively, if the assessor does not want to achieve recertification by passing a written exam, the assessor may attend at least 74 hours of continuing education courses.

Proposed law retains present law in terms of the hours of continuing education courses needed to attain recertification but adds the Workshop 191 National USPAP Update course and gives assessors an option to attend a one-day or two-day USPAP course in order to attain recertification.

Effective Jan. 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 47:1907(E), (F)(1)(a) and (b), and (G)(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Ways and Means to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.