

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 258

BY REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU

ETHICS/DUAL OFFICEHOLDG: Provides for exceptions to the dual officeholding laws for volunteer firefighters and judicial branch employees

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 42:66(A)(11) and (Q), relative to exceptions to the dual officeholding and dual
3 employment laws; to provide an exception for volunteer firefighters; to provide a
4 limited exception for employees in the judicial branch to serve on boards and
5 commissions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 42:66(A)(11) and (Q) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §66. Exemptions

9 A. Nothing in this Part shall be construed to prohibit any of the following
10 classes of officials or employees from serving in other offices or employments:

11 * * *

12 (11) Members or officers of a volunteer fire department or a combination fire
13 department.

14 * * *

15 Q. Nothing in this Part shall be construed to prohibit a person holding
16 employment in the judicial branch, including as judge ad hoc or pro tempore, from
17 holding at the same time a part-time appointive office in another branch as a
18 designee or appointed member of any board, committee, task force, or commission.

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 258 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Beaulieu

Abstract: Provides a general exception to the dual officeholding and dual employment laws for volunteer firefighters and provides a limited exception for employees in the judicial branch to serve on boards and commissions.

Present law (R.S. 42:63) regulates dual officeholding and dual employment in order to prevent conflicts of interest and to promote and maintain citizen trust in government. Prohibits certain specific combinations of public office and employment, including a prohibition against holding a full-time appointive office or full-time employment in the government of La. or of a political subdivision thereof and at the same time holding another full-time appointive office or full-time employment in the government of the state, in the government of a political subdivision thereof, or in a combination of these. Further prohibits a person holding an elective office in a political subdivision of this state from at the same time holding another elective office or full-time appointive office in the government of this state or in the government of a political subdivision thereof. Provides that no such person shall hold at the same time employment in the government of this state, or in the same political subdivision in which he holds an elective office. In addition provides that no sheriff, assessor, or clerk of court shall hold any office or employment under a parish governing authority.

Present law (R.S. 18:64) additionally prohibits a person from holding a combination of offices and employments that are determined to be incompatible because of the existence of certain conditions set forth in present law.

Proposed law retains present law prohibitions except to provide a general exception for members or officers of a volunteer fire department or a combination fire department.

Present law (R.S. 42:63) provides that no person holding office or employment in one branch of the state government shall at the same time hold another office or employment in any other branch of the state government.

Proposed law retains present law except to allow a person holding employment in the judicial branch, including as judge ad hoc or pro tempore, to hold at the same time a part-time appointive office in another branch as a designee or appointed member of any board, committee, task force, or commission.

(Adds R.S. 42:66(A)(11) and (Q))