

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 73 (HB 436)

2026 Regular Session

Dickerson

Existing law authorizes municipalities to exercise unlimited police power for the preservation of peace and order in parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, and other amusement locations operated by the municipality.

Existing law allows police officers of a municipality to make arrests for violations of ordinances within or without the corporate limits of the municipality.

New law authorizes the municipality or local governing authority to appoint veterans to serve as police officers.

Existing law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to appoint competent men to serve as police officers in local parks.

Existing law authorizes state park wardens to enforce all rules and regulations of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of state parks, and all laws of the state of La. within their jurisdiction.

New law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to appoint veterans honorably discharged to serve as state park wardens.

New law defines "veteran" as an honorably discharged former or current member of the U.S. Armed Forces or organized militia of the several states and territories, including but not limited to a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Natl. Guard, Air Natl. Guard, Reserves, State Guard, or a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Admin., or Natl. Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.

New law provides that if the veteran is employed by either a municipality, local governing authority, or office of state parks, the veteran must meet all training requirements and qualifications for employment.

New law requires the veteran to be certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) or be qualified by P.O.S.T.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 33:4558 and R.S. 56:1688(A))