

---

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

---

Martiny

HB No. 127

**Abstract:** Provides with respect to medical costs of inmates housed in parish facilities, including hospitalization costs.

Present law (R.S. 15:824) provides that an inmate who is not institutionalized in a state corrections facility because of a lack of facilities under the control of the department can be held in a parish jail. Further provides that the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) shall reimburse only the cost of extraordinary medical expenses incurred in emergency circumstances when the health of the inmate requires the use of the closest services available.

Proposed law, with regard to parish prisoners, requires the state to be responsible for and reimburse the appropriate authority for costs incurred for medical attention for inmates, including the payment of all costs when hospitalization is required and the following occur:

- (1) The governor declares by executive order or proclamation pursuant to the provisions of the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act (R.S. 29:721 et seq.) a disaster or emergency encompassing the parish prison.
- (2) The Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College declares that the state hospital operated as part of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, which typically provides the medical care to inmates in that parish, has been rendered inoperable and is unable to provide medical treatment to those inmates.

Proposed law under the same two conditions, requires DPS&C, subject to appropriation by the legislature, to reimburse the cost of medical care incurred to the sheriff or governing authority of the parish when a state inmate in parish custody requires hospitalization.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 15:824(B)(1)(b); Adds R.S. 15:713)

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill.

1. Requires the state to reimburse the appropriate authority for medical care incurred by the parish or sheriff for providing medical care to a parish inmate, including the

payment of all costs when hospitalization is required when two specified conditions are met.