
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)]

Geymann

HB No. 620

Abstract: Requires the legislative auditor to determine if appropriations to health care and higher education are less than the previous year; requires the Revenue Estimating Conference's official forecast to include a projection of all state general fund, self-generated revenues, and statutorily dedicated funds; requires the REC to designate certain funds as nonrecurring; requires the clerk of the House of Representatives to cause an unofficial enrollment of the general appropriation bill upon final passage of the Senate within twenty-four hours; and provides for limitations on appropriations.

LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

Present law provides for the powers and duties of the legislative auditor.

Proposed law expands the powers and duties in present law to include determining whether the budget recommends appropriations out of the state general fund and dedicated funds for the next fiscal year for health care and for higher education in amounts less than the appropriations enacted for each purpose for the current fiscal year. (R.S. 24:513(D)(7))

REVENUE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE

Present law sets forth requirements relative to the expenditure of state funds and establishes the Revenue Estimating Conference to prepare and publish initial and revised estimates of money to be received by the state general fund and dedicated funds for the current and next fiscal years which are available for appropriation, the most recent of which is called the official forecast. In each estimate, the REC must also designate money as nonrecurring. Money not designated as nonrecurring is designated as recurring. Proposed law retains present law and adds that the REC shall include a forecast of all funds as defined in Article VII, Section 10(J) of the Constitution of Louisiana, with an estimate of money available for appropriation from each dedicated fund. Proposed law also provides that the REC must designate as nonrecurring, money available for appropriation from any source that has not been available for the preceding two fiscal years or which will not be available for the succeeding two fiscal years. (R.S. 39:24(A))

EXECUTIVE BUDGET

Present law requires the governor to prepare an executive budget to include recommendations for appropriations from the state general fund and dedicated funds which shall not exceed the official forecast of the REC. Proposed law retains present law and provides that the executive budget shall not include recommendations for appropriations from any fund in excess of the official forecast of money available for appropriation from that fund and shall include reports of all discretionary and nondiscretionary expenditures by means of finance. (R.S. 39:34(A) and 36(A)(3)(b))

APPROPRIATION BILLS

Present law requires, after submitting his executive budget, that the governor then cause to be introduced a General Appropriations Bill (GAB) for the ordinary operating expenditures of state government in conformity with the budget estimate. Proposed law retains this provision and provides that the general appropriation bill and other appropriation bills shall not appropriate any funds which are not part of the official REC forecast. Proposed law further provides that the clerk of the House of Representatives shall cause an unofficial enrollment of the General Appropriation Bill and a summary of amendments upon final passage of the bill by the Senate within twenty-four hours. (R.S. 39:51(A) and (G))

EXPENDITURE OF STATE FUNDS

Present law provides that appropriations from the state general fund and dedicated funds shall not exceed the official forecast. Proposed law retains present law and also specifies that unless otherwise provided by present law permitting the use and transfer of funds to avoid a projected deficit, the amount appropriated out of any fund shall not exceed the official forecast of money available for appropriation from that fund. (R.S. 39:54(A))

Effective on July 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 39:24(A), 34(A), 36(A)(3)(b), 51(A), and 54(A); Adds R.S. 24:513(D)(7) and R.S. 39:51(G))