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DIGEST

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Allain

SB No. 456

Present law (R.S. 42:1119—Code of Governmental Ethics) relative to nepotism prohibits a governmental entity from employing an immediate family member of a member of a governing authority or of the chief executive of the governmental entity.

Present law provides an exception for any hospital service district with a population of 100,000 persons or less or hospital public trust authority located in such a district. Provides that such a district or authority may enter into an initial recruiting contract with or employ as a health care provider, a licensed physician, a registered nurse, or an allied health professional who is a member of the immediate family of any district board, authority, or parish governing authority member or of the chief executive of the district or authority if such family member is the only qualified applicant who has applied for the position after it has been advertised as provided by present law. Present law further provides an additional substantially similar exception applicable in hospital service districts in a parish with a population of between 400,000 and 440,000 persons and to hospital public trust authorities located in such districts; however, this exception provides that the immediate family member must merely be a qualified applicant, not the only qualified applicant. Present law requires recusal from decisions involving the promotion, discipline, discharge, or assignment of any such employee and annual disclosure of the facts of such employment.

Proposed law removes the population restriction from the exception for hospital service districts, making the exception applicable to every hospital service district or hospital trust authority located in a hospital service district. Proposed law removes the specific exception applicable in hospital service districts in a parish with a population of between 400,000 and 440,000 persons and to hospital public trust authorities located in such districts. Otherwise retains present law.

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

(Amends R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(b)(i); Repeals R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(b)(ii))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the engrossed bill.

1. Adds repeal of the exception that specifically applied to hospital service districts in a parish with a population of between 400,000 and 440,000 persons and to hospital public trust authorities located in such districts.