

New law provides relative to monies collected as a result of the Crescent City Connection amnesty program for those persons who failed to pay a toll to cross the Crescent City Connection Bridge prior to January 1, 2013.

Provides that prior to appropriation of any monies to the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission, on July 1, 2014, \$128,681.00 on deposit in the Crescent City Transition Fund shall be deemed abandoned funds for the purposes of treatment as unclaimed property.

Provides that funds deemed abandoned shall be immediately transferred from the Crescent City Transition Fund by the state treasurer in his capacity as administrator of the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act. Requires the state treasurer to deposit these funds into the Crescent City Amnesty Refund Fund, and provide for the return of such funds to their owners in accordance with the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act during the term set forth in new law. Further requires the state treasurer to provide for the payment of all unexpended and unencumbered funds remaining in the Crescent City Amnesty Refund Fund as of July 1, 2015.

Creates the Crescent City Amnesty Refund Fund as a special fund in the state treasury (the "fund") and provides that the source of monies for the fund shall be the monies transferred from the Crescent City Transition Fund.

Provides that after compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, an amount equal to that deposited into the state treasury shall be deposited in and credited to the fund. Requires that the monies in the fund to be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as the state general fund, and interest earnings to be deposited into the fund.

Provides for the appropriation of all unexpended and unencumbered monies remaining in the fund on July 1, 2015.

Provides that all data associated with monies deposited into the Crescent City Transition Fund that was collected by DOTD shall be transferred by DOTD to the state treasurer and to the Unclaimed Property Division in an electronic format as designated by such division.

Provides for the waiver of holder requirements.

Authorizes the state treasurer, in his capacity as administrator of the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, to establish policies and procedures as necessary to implement the provisions of new law.

Requires that all books, papers, and records transferred to the state treasurer be retained for a period of no less than five years following such transfer.

The provisions of new law shall supersede and control to the extent of conflict with any other provision of law.

Provides that any person who availed himself of the toll violation amnesty program as provided in R.S. 47:7019.1, made payment for a toll violation to DOTD during the amnesty period, who contacts the state treasurer, as administrator of the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, for a refund, and provides the state treasurer with sufficient proof of the payment of the toll violation, is entitled to a refund of such monies paid if he satisfies one of the following:

- (1) Such person possessed a valid toll tag and payment account, but due to no fault of his own, his toll payment account was not accessed for payment.
- (2) Such person did not possess a valid toll tag and made payment for fewer than five toll violations.

Requires the state treasurer to establish a refund program.

Requires the state treasurer to begin the program no later than October 1, 2014, and terminate the program on June 30, 2015. Requires the state treasurer to publicize the program to

maximize the public awareness of and participation in the program. Provides the state treasurer has no obligation to refund monies collected during the amnesty period for a toll violation after June 30, 2015.

Provides that the refund program terminates on June 30, 2015.

Forgives the toll violations of any person who possessed a valid toll tag and payment account but, due to no fault of his own, the toll payment account was not accessed for payment.

Requires DOTD, attorney general, or the office of debt recovery, as applicable, to provide the state treasurer with the records in each department's possession of all toll violation payments made during the amnesty period.

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 19, 2014).

(Adds R.S. 9:154.3 and R.S. 47:7019.2)