

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 812

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHRODER

PUBLIC BLDGS/GROUNDS-ST: Provides relative to maximizing the use of available office space in state buildings

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 39:127.2, relative to maximum utilization of office space in state owned
3 buildings; to provide for the identification of underutilized office space; to require
4 utilization by certain agencies; to provide duties and responsibilities; to require
5 reporting of available office space and reporting of agencies in violation; and to
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 39:127.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §127.2 Utilization of office space in state owned buildings

10 A. The Legislature of Louisiana hereby finds and declares that the maximum
11 utilization of state owned buildings is a necessary cost efficiency and, accordingly,
12 further declares that it is incumbent upon and the responsibility of all state agencies
13 to actively conserve, identify, and seek available office space in state owned
14 buildings.

15 B. The division of administration, as part of its duty to allocate space in
16 accordance with R.S. 39:127, shall:

17 (1) Maintain a list, updated monthly, of all office space in state owned
18 buildings by location, square footage, and classification.

1 (2) Classify the potential use of all office space based on the type of space,
2 accessibility, climate control, and other factors it may deem important to properly
3 and fully maximize space utilization.

4 (3) Identify and make available to all state agencies a list of all available or
5 underutilized office space.

6 (4) Maintain and update quarterly a list of all state agencies who have
7 personnel, equipment, operations, or storage located in buildings not owned by the
8 state.

9 (5) Submit a "State Office Building Space Utilization Report" on or before
10 March 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget summarizing
11 the information required in Paragraphs (3) and (4) of this Subsection.

12 C.(1)(a) Within thirty days after the quarterly update of the list required in
13 Subsection (A)(4) of this Section, the division of administration shall notify the
14 heads of each agency on such list of all available office space that the division of
15 administration determines is suitable for the needs of the agency.

16 (b) In making determinations of suitability, the division of administration
17 shall comply with federal laws and regulations and with state-federal agreements
18 with respect to the housing of any agency, or its personnel, operations, equipment,
19 or activities, which receives or administers any federal funds.

20 (2) Within thirty days of the notification provided in Paragraph (1) of this
21 Subsection, the agency head shall respond to the notice with a transitional plan for
22 moving into the available space or a detailed indication of why the space is not
23 suitable for use by the agency.

24 (3) If the agency does not submit a transitional plan for moving into the
25 space identified or does not move in the time indicated in the plan, the notice and
26 response required by this Subsection shall be included as part of the annual report to
27 the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget provided for in Paragraph (A)(5) of
28 this Section.

1 D. Neither the fact that an agency is headed by an elected or an appointed
2 officer nor the fact that an agency derives its operating funds from direct legislative
3 appropriations, dedication or other allocation or sources of revenues, fees or charges
4 or assessments, or from any other specified source of funds available to the state or
5 for use by the state shall be a factor in determining the agencies or buildings to which
6 this Section shall apply.

7 E. For purposes of this Section:

8 (1) "Agency" means a department, office, division, or agency of a state
9 governmental entity, except those provided in R.S. 27:127(C) and (D).

10 (2) "Agency head" or "head of agency" means the chief executive or
11 administrative officer of an agency who exercises supervision over the agency.

12 (3) "Office space" means space suitable to house an agency, its personnel,
13 operations, equipment, or activities but does not include the space governed by the
14 provisions of R.S. 49:150.1.

15 (4) "State owned building" means a public building belonging to or under the
16 control of the state of Louisiana and designed to house personnel, equipment,
17 storage, or services of the various agencies of the state.

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)]

HB 812 Original

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Schroder

Abstract: Requires the division of administration to identify and seek full utilization of state owned office space; requires notice to agencies; and requires reporting to JLCB.

Present law provides that the division of administration is responsible for the allocation of space in state office buildings (R.S. 39:127). Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the division of administration to: maintain a list of all office space in state owned buildings by location, and classification; classify the potential use of such office space based on the type of space, square footage, accessibility, climate control, and other factors; identify and make available to all state agencies a list of all available or underutilized office space; and, maintain and update a list of all state agencies who have personnel, equipment, operations, or storage located in buildings not owned by the state.

Proposed law further requires the division of administration to notify the agency head of any agency using non-state owned office space of alternative, state-owned space that the division

of administration has determined is suitable for the needs of the agency. Proposed law requires the agency head to respond to the notice and if the agency head declines use of the space, notice thereof must be submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

Proposed law provides definitions of "agency", "agency head", "office space", and state owned buildings".

(Adds R.S. 39:127.2)