
DIGEST

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HB 413 Original

2017 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Requires the state treasurer to deposit sufficient funds into the La. Public Defender Fund for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and each fiscal year thereafter to provide annual funding for each district public defender and public defenders.

Present law provides for the creation of the La. Public Defender Fund in the state treasury and the composition of the fund, administration of the fund, and use of monies from the fund.

Proposed law requires the state treasurer to deposit sufficient funds into the La. Public Defender Fund for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and each fiscal year thereafter to provide annual funding of \$49,000 for each district public defender and \$44,000 for each public defender equal to the same number of positions provided by R.S. 16:51 (which provides for the number of asst. district attorneys). Proposed law further requires the board to allocate the funds to the district defender offices and their indigent defender funds in the various judicial districts throughout the state. Authorizes the district defender to reallocate the funds by combining or dividing the total amount to pay for the salaries of the public defenders in his district or any other operating costs.

Proposed law provides that the total amount of money deposited into the fund shall not exceed 65% of the total amount of money deposited each fiscal year.

(Amends R.S. 15:167(B))