
DIGEST

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HB 412 Original

2020 Regular Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Expands authorized uses of funds in the State Emergency Response Fund (SERF) for cybersecurity and for recovery from an emergency or declared disaster.

Present law establishes SERF to provide a source of funds for preparation for and response to declared disasters and emergencies. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law expands the authorized use of SERF monies to recovery from a declared disaster or emergency.

Proposed law recognizes the need for a robust cybersecurity defense for the state and its political subdivisions. In addition to authorized uses in present law, authorizes SERF monies to be used for the following:

- (1) Training opportunities for employees of the state and its political subdivisions in information assurance, security, and recover, cybersecurity, and related fields.
- (2) Funding additional pay for employees of the state and its political subdivisions who respond to cyber incidents on behalf of the state and its political subdivisions in addition to performing their primary employment duties.
- (3) Funding the purchase of updated computer hardware and software and internet-connected devices for the state and its political subdivisions that are determined to be necessary by the office of technology services following vulnerability assessments, inspections, or cyber incident recovery efforts.
- (4) Funding retention of private-sector information technology professionals.

Further defines "cyber incident" as used in proposed law to mean: any type of malicious, destructive or harmful software or program that is targeted at or negatively affects or impacts computers, computer servers, computer programs, computer services, computer software, internet-connected devices, or computer systems or networks owned or operated by the state of Louisiana or its political subdivisions, including but not limited to cyber threat indicators, denial of service attacks, malware, or ransom-ware attacks, whether imminent or not.

Act 404 of the 2019 Regular Session of the Legislature amended present law relative to SERF to become effective July 1, 2020. Proposed law retains the legislature's amendments to R.S.

39:100.31(B) made in Act 404. Further provides that the provisions of this Act are intended to supercede the changes made by Act 404.

Effective July 1, 2020.

(Amends R.S. 39:100.31(B); Adds R.S. 39:100.31(C))