

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 144 (HB 412)

2020 Regular Session

Zeringue

Existing law establishes the State Emergency Response Fund (SERF) to provide a source of funds for preparation for and response to declared disasters and emergencies. New law expands the authorized uses of SERF monies to include recovery from a declared disaster or emergency.

New law further recognizes the need for a robust cybersecurity defense for the state and its political subdivisions. In addition to authorized uses in existing 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 recovery, 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.

New law defines "cyber incident" as used in new 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.

Effective July 1, 2020.

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