

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 27

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

FEES/LICENSES/PERMITS: Provides relative to fees charged to businesses by state agencies during a state of emergency (Items #2, 3, 32, and 35)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 29:732.1 and 776, relative to fees charged to businesses by state agencies
3 during a state of emergency or public health emergency; to exempt payment of fees
4 for a certain time; to provide for extension of the exemption; to provide for
5 exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 29:732.1 and 776 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §732.1. Fees charged to businesses

9 A. During a state of emergency as declared by the governor or the parish
10 president pursuant to this Chapter, a business physically located within the
11 designated emergency area shall be exempt from the payment of any fee, including
12 a licensing fee, occupational fee, certification fee, or permitting fee, payable to any
13 state agency that is attributable to the business's operation within the designated
14 emergency area.

15 B. The fee exemption provided by Subsection A of this Section shall extend
16 until one year after the termination of the state of emergency. The Joint Legislative
17 Committee on the Budget may further extend the exemption.

18 C. The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may create an exception
19 to the exemption for a certain fee or allow an extension of the due date for a certain

1 fee upon a showing by the agency that such fee is necessary to fund the agency's
2 operations.

3 * * *

4 §776. Fees charged to businesses

5 R.S. 29:732.1 shall apply to this Chapter.

6 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
7 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
8 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
9 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
10 effective on the day following such approval.

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 27 Original

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Zeringue

Abstract: Exempts businesses from paying fees to state agencies during a state of emergency.

Present law authorizes the governor or a parish president to declare a state of emergency pursuant to the La. Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act.

Present law authorizes the governor to declare a state of public health emergency pursuant to the La. Health Emergency Powers Act.

Proposed law provides that during a state of emergency or public health emergency, a business physically located within the designated emergency area shall be exempt from the payment of any fee, including a licensing fee, occupational fee, certification fee, or permitting fee, payable to any state agency that is attributable to the business's operation within the designated emergency area.

Proposed law provides that the fee exemption shall extend until one year after the termination of the state of emergency. The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may further extend the exemption.

Proposed law provides that the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget may create an exception to the exemption for a certain fee or allow an extension of the due date for a certain fee upon a showing by the agency that such fee is necessary to fund the agency's operations.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 29:732.1 and 776)