
DIGEST

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HB 68 Engrossed

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Schexnayder

Abstract: Creates and provides for the composition and duties of the Legislative Committee on Emergency Declarations and prohibits disaster or emergency declarations or public health emergency declarations from extending beyond 30 days unless approved by the Legislative Committee on Emergency Declarations.

Present law provides that disaster or emergency declarations or public health emergency declarations shall continue until the governor finds that the threat of danger has passed or that the emergency has been dealt with to the extent that the emergency conditions no longer exist and terminates the emergency by executive order or proclamation.

Present law further provides that no state of public health emergency may continue for longer than 30 days unless renewed by the governor.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that no disaster or emergency declarations or public health emergency declarations may continue for longer than 30 days unless renewed by the Legislative Committee on Emergency Declarations.

Proposed law establishes the Legislative Committee on Emergency Declarations and provides that the committee may renew public health emergency declarations.

Present law provides that the legislature may file a petition to terminate a state of public health emergency if signed by the surviving members of either house.

Proposed law retains and clarifies the procedures of present law, and provides that the petition supersedes any decision of the Legislative Committee on Emergency Declarations.

Proposed law provides that the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president of the Senate, the speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives, and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall be members of the committee.

Proposed law requires the committee to appoint a chairperson from among its members.

Proposed law allows the members of the committee to appoint a designee who shall have the rights and privileges of the member being represented.

Proposed law provides that no decision by the committee to renew or modify a declaration shall be

without the favorable vote of at least a majority of the members of the Legislative Committee on Emergency Declarations.

Proposed law requires the committee to give notice for meetings and official actions and requires the council to publish its decisions in the Louisiana Register.

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

(Amends R.S. 29:722(A)(2), 724(A) and (B), 766(A), (B), and (D), and 768)