

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 84

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

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AN ACT

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To amend and reenact R.S. 39:134(C), relative to the expenditure of federal funds; to modify requirements for Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget approval of the expenditure of federal funds received under certain circumstances; to provide for certain requirements; and to provide for related matters.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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Section 1. R.S. 39:134(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

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§134. Legislative appropriation authority

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10           C.(1) When the legislature is not in session, the Joint Legislative Committee  
11           on the Budget may approve the expenditure of available federal funds and  
12           appropriate necessary state matching funds. However, the delegated authority shall  
13           apply only when new or additional federal funds are available at a time which  
14           precludes their appropriation by the legislature in session.

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(2) Federal funds received pursuant to a federally declared disaster or  
emergency may be expended prior to approval by the Joint Legislative Committee  
on the Budget when both of the following occur:

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(a) The secretary of the agency requesting the funds certifies in writing to the  
governor and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget that any delay would  
be detrimental to the state.

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(b) The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget is unable to meet to  
approve the expenditure. However, the inability of the committee to meet shall not

1           prohibit the expenditure of any federal funds received for testing, treatment, and  
2           prevention of COVID-19 prior to approval by the committee.

3           (3) The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget shall meet to consider  
4           approval of the expenditure at its next meeting following receipt of the certification  
5           made pursuant to Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Subsection. The agency requesting the  
6           funds shall submit a request in writing for approval of the expenditure prior to the  
7           meeting on a form and according to procedures determined by the committee.

8           (4) Once the committee meets to consider the request, no new or additional  
9           federal funds shall be expended by any agency for the same disaster or emergency  
10          unless approved by the committee or appropriated by the legislature prior to  
11          expenditure.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_