
DIGEST

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HB 679 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Duplessis

Abstract: Extends the time the Board of Ethics has to notify an elected official regarding deficiencies in disclosure statements regarding certain transactions from 10 days after receipt of the statement to no later than the second regularly scheduled meeting of the board following receipt of the statement.

Present law (R.S. 42:1111(E)(2)) prohibits an elected official of a governmental entity from receiving or agreeing to receive any thing of economic value for assisting a person in a transaction or in an appearance in connection with a transaction with the governmental entity or its officials or agencies, unless he files a written statement with the Bd. of Ethics prior to or within 10 days after initial assistance is rendered, including a certification that the information is true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief. Present law excludes ministerial transactions from this requirement.

Present law provides that the contents of the statement shall be prescribed by the board, provides that the statement shall be a public record, and requires the board to review all the statements, and if it determines a statement to be deficient or suggests a violation of the ethics code, the board shall notify the official of its findings within 10 days of the receipt of the statement. Provides that the notification is confidential and privileged and made public only in connection with a public hearing for a relevant violation of the code.

Proposed law changes the time period the board has to notify the official from within 10 days of receipt to no later than the second regularly scheduled meeting of the board following receipt and otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 42:1111(E)(2)(d))