HLS 22RS-1687 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 923

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCKNIGHT

LIABILITY/CIVIL: Provides relative to liability associated with Mardi Gras parades

1 AN ACT 2 To amend and reenact R.S. 9:2796(A), relative to the limitation of liability for loss 3 connected to Mardi Gras parades; to provide for liability associated with motordrawn 4 floats and other vehicles; to provide a limitation of liability for certain contractors 5 and members of certain krewes and organizations; and to provide for related matters. 6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 7 Section 1. R.S. 9:2796(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: 8 §2796. Limitation of liability for loss connected with Mardi Gras parades and 9 festivities; fair and festival parades 10 A.(1) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no person shall have 11 a cause of action against any krewe or organization, any group traditionally referred 12 to as Courir de Mardi Gras, or any member thereof, which presents Mardi Gras 13 parades, including traditional rural Mardi Gras parades, processions, or runs in which 14 participants ride on horseback, march, walk, or ride on horse-drawn or motordrawn 15 floats, or wheeled beds, or other parades, whether held on a public or private street 16 or waterway, or in a building or other structure, or any combination thereof, 17 connected with pre-Lenten festivities or the Holiday in Dixie Parade, or against any 18 nonprofit organization chartered under the laws of this state, or any member thereof, 19 which sponsors fairs or festivals that present parades or courirs, for any loss or 20 damage caused by any member thereof, during or in conjunction with or related to

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the parades or courirs presented by such krewe or organization, unless said loss or damage was caused by the deliberate and wanton act or gross negligence of the krewe or organization, or any member thereof as the case may be, or unless said member was operating a motor vehicle within the parade or festival and was a compensated employee of the krewe, organization, or courir. The provisions of this Section shall not be intended to limit the liability of a compensated employee of such krewe or organization for his individual acts of negligence.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no person shall have a cause of action against a krewe, organization, or courir listed in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, or a member, contractor, or employee of a contractor of such krewe, organization, or courir who is hired or contracted by the krewe, organization, or courir to construct or stage Mardi Gras parades for any loss or damage caused by the member, contractor, or employee of a contractor through the operation, transfer, or movement of a motordrawn float or other vehicle in connection with a Mardi Gras parade unless the loss or damage was caused by the deliberate and wanton act or gross negligence of the member, contractor, or employee of the contractor.

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## 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 923 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

McKnight

**Abstract:** Limits liability for damages caused by driving a motordrawn float or other vehicle.

<u>Present law</u> provides a limitation of liability for Mardi Gras krewes and organizations and traditional Courir de Mardi Gras, or any member thereof, and nonprofit organizations which sponsor fairs or festivals that present parades or courirs for any loss or damage caused by any member thereof in conjunction with the parade or courir unless the loss or damage was caused by the deliberate and wanton act or gross negligence of the krewe or organization or member thereof.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the limitation of liability does not apply if the member was operating a motor vehicle within the parade or festival and was a compensated employee of

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the krewe, organization, or courir and does not apply to a compensated employee of the krewe or organization for his individual acts of negligence.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals <u>present law</u> and provides that no person shall have a cause of action against a krewe, organization, or courir described in <u>present law</u>, or a member, contractor, or employee of a contractor of such krewe, organization, or courir who is hired or contracted by the krewe, organization, or courir to construct or stage Mardi Gras parades for any loss or damage caused by the member, contractor, or employee of a contractor through the operation, transfer, or movement of a motordrawn float or other vehicle in connection with a Mardi Gras parade unless the loss or damage was caused by the deliberate and wanton act or gross negligence of the member, contractor, or employee of the contractor

(Amends R.S. 9:2796(A))