
DIGEST

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HB 756 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Abstract: Transfers responsibility of the maintenance of specified buildings and grounds in the capitol complex to the lt. governor through the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism subject to the authority and direction of the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate and creates a special fund for such purposes.

Present law (R.S. 49:150.1) provides for and specifies the allocation and use of space within the state capitol, pentagon court buildings, and the Old Arsenal Museum, including the subbasement, basement, and all floors of the state capitol, all buildings in the pentagon court, and the Old Arsenal Museum. Provides that except as otherwise provided in present law, the superintendent of state buildings will have charge of the management, operation, and maintenance of the state capitol building, pentagon court buildings, the Old Arsenal Museum, and the capitol complex grounds. Present law provides that in the performance of such duties, the superintendent will be under the authority and direction of the governor, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate.

Proposed law provides notwithstanding present law that the office of the lt. governor through the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT) shall have charge of and be responsible for the maintenance of the state capitol and any additions or appurtenances thereto, pentagon barracks buildings, capitol annex, the Old Arsenal Magazine Museum, and the grounds adjacent to those buildings, including any lease or rental agreements related to those properties, all subject to the authority and direction of the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate. Provides that office of the lt. governor through CRT shall repair, maintain, and, as appropriate, enhance the buildings and grounds for the enjoyment, inspiration, education, and safety of all people who visit the buildings and grounds. Requires the lt. governor to submit a plan and a proposed budget for such functions to the Legislative Budgetary Control Council (LBCC) by Feb. 15th of each year. Provides after approval of the plan and budget, the speaker and the president may approve projects in accordance with the plan and emergency maintenance and repair needs.

Proposed law establishes the Capitol Complex Maintenance and Enhancement Fund as a special fund in the state treasury. Provides that monies in the fund shall be subject to appropriation and only used for the purposes established proposed law and as approved by the LBCC. Provides that the monies in the fund shall be invested by the treasurer in the same manner as monies in the state general fund, all interest earned shall be deposited and credited to the fund, and all unexpended or unencumbered monies remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund. Required deposit of rent and lease revenue into the fund.

Proposed law directs the state treasurer to transfer any and all funds allocated to the division of administration or any agency thereof to carry out the functions, duties, and activities transferred to the office of Lt. governor through CRT and the LBCC by proposed law to the Capitol Complex Maintenance and Enhancement Fund. Provides that the cooperative endeavor agreement entered into with the Dept. of Veterans Affairs regarding the Old Arsenal Magazine Museum and the La. Veterans Memorial Park shall be retained in the manner set forth in the agreement. Provides that any contracts entered into with the division of administration or any agency thereof for the functions, duties, and activities transferred by proposed law shall be deemed to have been transferred and assigned to the office of Lt. governor and shall be subject to the directives of the presiding officers of the legislature and the LBCC in the manner provided by proposed law without the necessity of contractual amendment.

Proposed law specifies for FY2022-23, the office of Lt. governor through CRT shall coordinate with and work at the direction of the presiding officers of the legislature to accomplish the goals of proposed law until the Lt. governor is able to submit a plan for approval to LBCC in accordance proposed law.

Effective July 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 49:150.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Provide for rental and lease agreements for the properties and for the deposit of those proceeds into the fund.
2. Provide for office of Lt. governor through CRT to coordinate with and work at the direction of the presiding officers for FY2022-23.
3. Change effective date from signature of governor to July 1, 2022.