
DIGEST

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HB 1070 Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Abstract: Provides relative to the operational procedures of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Present law provides for the authorities and responsibilities of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP).

Present law requires state and local emergency operation plans that may include certain information.

Proposed law retains present law regarding the information included in the plans but makes the inclusion of the information mandatory.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that GOHSEP shall do the following by Aug. 1, 2022:

- (1) Ensure the official state emergency management software system is accessible to certain entities and has specific capabilities regarding requests.
- (2) Develop an online emergency management training program to be completed annually by local officials and employees identified by each parish president.
- (3) Coordinate with the office of state procurement, Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry, Dept. of Transportation and Development, and Dept. of Military Affairs to prepare a procurement assessment report and submit the report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) and the House and Senate select committees on homeland security.
- (4) Develop a program to provide temporary housing and shelter assistance to parish governing authorities during the first 14 days following a disaster.

Proposed law provides requirements for GOHSEP to implement the program and for local governments to participate in the program. Eligibility for participation includes waiving certain land use regulations.

Proposed law requires the regional coordinator for each homeland security and emergency preparedness region to administer the emergency management training to local officials and employees annually either in-person or virtually.

Proposed law requires GOHSEP to submit an annual report to JLCB and the House and Senate select

committees on homeland security regarding contracts and the temporary housing and shelter assistance program.

Present law requires GOHSEP to study the feasibility of pre-bidding certain contracts for disaster response services.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law provides that the office of interoperability shall be headed by an assistant deputy director of interoperability.

Proposed law relocates present law under the present law provision which provides relative to powers of a director.

Proposed law requires the assistant deputy director of interoperability to work with the interoperability subcommittee of the Unified Command Group to develop a plan for alternatives to the La. Wireless Information Network and submit the plan to JLCB for approval by March 1, 2023.

Proposed law creates the Emergency Communications Interoperability Fund to provide funding for the interoperability plan approved by JLCB.

Present law requires each parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness to have a director appointed by the parish president and provides for responsibilities of the director.

Proposed law requires each parish president to designate any parish, municipal, or special district employees the parish president deems necessary to be dedicated on a full-time basis to emergency preparedness and disaster response in the parish.

Proposed law further requires the director to ensure that the employees so designated and any local officials deemed necessary by the parish president have received the annual emergency management training provided by GOHSEP.

Present law provides for a disaster and emergency funding board.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Amends R.S. 29:725(A) and (F), 725.5, 726(B)(intro. para.) and (F) and 729(B)(intro. para.) and (12); Adds R.S. 29:725(K), 726(G), and 728(G); Repeals R.S. 29:726(E)(25) and 731)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Require the regional coordinator for each homeland security and emergency preparedness region to administer the emergency management training to local officials and employees

annually either in-person or virtually.

2. Require the assistant deputy director of interoperability to work with the Unified Command Group's interoperability subcommittee to develop a plan for alternatives to the La. Wireless Information Network and submit the plan to JLCB for approval by March 1, 2023.
3. Create the Emergency Communications Interoperability Fund to provide funding for the plan approved by JLCB.
4. Require that local officials have access to the state emergency management software system for the purpose of viewing the status of requests.
5. Require the software system to send automatic notifications to requesting parishes when the status of a request changes.
6. Add criteria for the emergency management training program.
7. Clarify that the temporary housing waiver applies to housing directly adjacent to the survivor's damaged dwelling.
8. Change the party responsible for designating local employees to respond to a disaster or emergency from the parish director of the office of homeland security and emergency preparedness to the parish president.
9. Provide that the components included in the state and local emergency operations plans are mandatory instead of optional.
10. Make technical changes.