ENROLLED

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 745

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 40:2537, relative to officer disciplinary matters; to provide for whistleblower protection; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:2537 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2537. Whistleblower protection and cause of action

A. No police employee shall be discharged, demoted, suspended, threatened, harassed, or discriminated against in any manner in the terms and conditions of his employment because of any lawful act engaged in by the employee or on behalf of the employee in furtherance of any action taken to report malfeasance in office by police employees to law enforcement, whether such fellow employee is a co-worker, supervisor or subordinate.

B.(1) A police employee may bring an action for relief against his employer, in a court of competent jurisdiction, for damages associated with any action taken by the employee which is in furtherance of reporting malfeasance in office.

(2) A person aggrieved of a violation of Subsection A of this Section shall be entitled to treble damages plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.

C. A plaintiff shall not be entitled to recovery pursuant to this Section if the court finds that the plaintiff instituted or proceeded with an action that was frivolous, vexatious, or harassing.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ________________

Color Coding Explanation: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.