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## DIGEST

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### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

**HB 1015**

**2022 Regular Session**

**Schexnayder**

#### Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Provides relative to financial incentives for events held in Louisiana

#### Report adopts Senate amendments to:

1. Add event producers and hosts as eligible recipients of grants from the Major Events Incentive Fund and allow the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to contract directly with the entities.
2. Provide an exception to the requirement that an event may only be held once a year to be eligible for funding through the Major Events Incentive Program and the Events Incentive Program.
3. Change the effective date.
4. Make technical changes.

#### Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Required approval by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for all contracts entered into by the lieutenant governor to solicit a qualified major event.
2. Required all monies in the Major Events Incentive Fund and the Events Incentive Fund to be subject to an appropriation.
3. Required approval by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for all economic analyses submitted to the treasurer.
4. Required an act of the legislature prior to the treasurer transferring state general fund monies.
5. Changed the requirement for the lieutenant governor to report the amount of 50% of the sales

and excise taxes attributable to the major event to the treasurer reporting a recommendation for an amount of 50% of the sales and excise taxes attributable to the event.

**Report amends the bill to:**

1. Delete provisions requiring the treasurer to immediately transfer 50% of the incremental increase from the state general fund into the Major Events Incentive Fund.
2. Remove annual reporting requirement for the lieutenant governor.
3. Require the lieutenant governor to submit the economic analysis for each major event to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.
4. Require the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget to determine the portion of the incremental tax increase reported by the lieutenant governor to be transferred into the Major Events Incentive Fund.
5. Require the treasurer to transfer the amount determined by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget into the Major Events Incentive Fund.

**Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

Present law creates the Major Events Incentive Program to provide funding for specific major events and provides definitions for "endorsing municipality", "endorsing parish", "event support contract", "local organizing committee", "qualified major event", and "site selection organization".

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the Dept. of Economic Development (LED) to administer the program.

Proposed law moves administration of the program to the lieutenant governor, through the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Proposed law allows grants to be used to pay or reimburse the event producer or host, endorsing parish, endorsing municipality, local organizing committee, official tourism commission, convention and visitors bureau, or official destination marketing organization for the cost of applying or bidding for selection as the site of the event and for the costs of planning for or conducting the event.

Present law requires approval of the commissioner of administration and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) prior to the execution of any contract with an event producer or host, a local organizing committee, endorsing parish, or endorsing municipality for a qualified major event.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law requires the lieutenant governor to submit an economic analysis to JLCB and to include in such analysis: (1) the designated area impacted by the occurrence of the qualified major event, (2) the total incremental increase in sales and use receipts in the designated area, and (3) the total incremental increase in excise tax receipts in the designated area.

Proposed law requires JLCB to determine the portion of the incremental tax increase reported by the lieutenant governor to be transferred into the Major Events Incentive Fund and requires the treasurer to transfer the amount determined by JLCB into the fund.

Present law creates the Major Events Incentive Program Subfund as a subfund of the Louisiana Mega-Project Development Fund.

Proposed law changes the subfund to a separate fund of the state treasury and renames it the Major Events Incentives Fund.

Proposed law creates the Events Incentive Program to provide grant funding to municipalities, parishes, official tourism commissions, convention and visitors bureaus, official destination marketing organizations, and nonprofit corporations hosting an event.

Proposed law requires the lieutenant governor, through the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, to administer the program.

Proposed law provides for eligibility criteria and required documentation for events to receive funding through the program.

Proposed law requires any application and documentation required by proposed law to be submitted no later than 180 days prior to the event to be considered.

Proposed law provides that an entity is eligible to receive up to 25% of the total cost incurred by the entity for the event, not to exceed \$250,000 per event.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to promulgate rules to administer both programs and to use the emergency rulemaking process for the promulgation of the initial administrative rules.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 51:2365(D)(3) and (F)(2); Adds R.S. 51:1260 and 1261; Repeals R.S. 51:2365(F)(1)(d) and 2365.1)