

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 97

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SUPPLEMENTAL PAY: (Constitutional Amendment) Requires state supplemental pay for public emergency medical services practitioners

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 11(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana and to add

3 Article VII, Section 10(D)(4) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to provision

4 of state supplements to the salaries of certain public emergency medical services

5 practitioners; to provide with respect to timing and criteria for such payments; to

6 require budgeting for and appropriation of such payments; to provide restrictions on

7 such payments; to authorize the legislature to provide by law with respect to such

8 payments; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and

9 to provide for related matters.

10 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members

11 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of

12 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to

13 amend Article VII, Section 11(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana and to add Article VII,

14 Section 10(D)(4) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10. Expenditure of State Funds

\* \* \*

(D) Appropriations.

\* \* \*

19 (4) The legislature shall provide by law for the payment by the state of

20 supplements to the salaries of full-time public emergency medical services

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1        practitioners. Payments pursuant to the provisions of this Subparagraph shall begin  
2        with the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2025, and continue each fiscal year thereafter.  
3        The legislature shall appropriate funds sufficient to fully fund the cost of such state  
4        supplement to the salaries of full-time public emergency medical services  
5        practitioners. For the purposes of this Subparagraph the term emergency medical  
6        services practitioner shall mean a full-time employee of a political subdivision of the  
7        state who does not receive a salary supplement pursuant to Subparagraph (3) of this  
8        Paragraph and who is employed as a licensed emergency medical technician,  
9        licensed advanced emergency medical technician, or a licensed paramedic.

\* \* \*

§11. Budgets

Section 11.(A) Budget Estimate. The governor shall submit to the legislature, at the time and in the form fixed by law, a budget estimate for the next fiscal year setting forth all proposed state expenditures. This budget shall include a recommendation for appropriations from the state general fund and from dedicated funds, except funds allocated by Article VII, Section 4, Paragraphs (D) and (E), which shall not exceed the official forecast of the Revenue Estimating Conference and the expenditure limit for the fiscal year. The recommendation shall also comply with the provisions of Article VII, Section 10(D). This budget shall include a recommendation for funding of state salary supplements for full-time law enforcement and fire protection officers of the state, as provided in Article VII, Section 10(D)(3) of this constitution. Beginning with the budget estimate for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and for each budget estimate thereafter, this budget shall also include a recommendation for funding of state salary supplements for full-time, public emergency medical services practitioners as provided in Article VII, Section 10(D)(4) of this constitution.

\* \* \*

1 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted  
2 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on October 14,  
3 2023.

4 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,  
5 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted  
6 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as  
7 follows:

8 Do you support an amendment to require budgeting for and payment of state  
9 supplements to the salaries of certain full-time, public, emergency medical  
10 services practitioners and to allow the legislature to provide by law with  
11 respect to such supplements? (Amends Article VII, Section 11(A); Adds  
12 Article VII, Section 10(D)(4))

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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)]

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**Abstract:** Authorizes the legislature to provide by law for the payment of state salary supplements to certain full-time, public, emergency medical services practitioners and requires annual appropriation of such supplements by the legislature.

Present constitution (Art. VII, Sec. 10(D)(3)) requires the legislature to appropriate funds each year to fully fund the cost of state supplements to the salaries of full-time law enforcement and fire protection officers.

Proposed constitutional amendment requires the legislature to provide by law for the payment by the state of supplements to the salaries of emergency medical services practitioners. Further defines the term "emergency medical services practitioner" for the purposes of proposed constitutional amendment to mean a full-time employee of a political subdivision of the state who does not receive a salary supplement pursuant to present constitution and who is employed as a licensed emergency medical technician, licensed advanced emergency medical technician, or a licensed paramedic. Proposed constitutional amendment requires appropriation of funds sufficient to fully fund such supplements each year starting with the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2025.

Present constitution (Art. VII, Sec. 11) requires the governor each year to submit to the legislature a budget estimate for the next fiscal year. Further requires this budget estimate to include a recommendation for funding the state salary supplements for full-time law enforcement and fire protection officers of the state.

Proposed constitutional amendment adds to this requirement a recommendation for funding the state salary supplements of emergency medical services practitioners.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held October 14, 2023.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §11(A); Adds Const. Art. VII, §10(D)(4))