
DIGEST

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HB 563 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Abstract: Provides incentive payments for newly employed law enforcement officers.

Proposed law creates the Law Enforcement Recruitment Incentive Program and corresponding fund for the purpose of providing one-time incentive payments of \$5,000 to certain newly employed law enforcement officers in the state.

Proposed law provides that to be eligible for the incentive payment, a newly employed officer shall:

- (1) Gain employment with a sheriff's office, municipal police department, or the office of state police on or after July 1, 2023.
- (2) Have never before been employed as a La. law enforcement officer.
- (3) Maintain continuous full-time employment with an eligible agency for a least two years.
- (4) Have permanent job duties that include making arrests, performing searches and seizures, or executing criminal warrants.
- (5) Be responsible for the prevention or detection of crime or for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of this state.
- (6) Be POST-certified by the date on which employment begins.

Proposed law provides that any elected or appointed head of a law enforcement department is not eligible for an incentive payment pursuant to the program.

Proposed law provides for the reimbursement of payments by any officer who receives funds and fails to maintain employment for two years.

Proposed law requires requests for incentive payments for newly employed officers to be submitted as follows:

- (1) Requests for incentive payments for deputy sheriffs shall be submitted by the sheriff of the respective parish to the Deputy Sheriff's Supplemental Pay Board for review and approval.

- (2) Requests for incentive payments for municipal police officers shall be submitted by the chief of police of the respective municipality to the Supplemental Pay Board of Review for Municipal Police Officers for review and approval.
- (3) Requests for incentive payments for law enforcement officers employed by the office of state police shall be submitted pursuant to rules promulgated by the State Police Commission.

Proposed law requires the approving entity to submit the approved request to the state treasurer for payment to the eligible agency.

Proposed law requires local civil service systems to promulgate rules as necessary to implement the program.

Proposed law terminates the program on July 1, 2025, and authorizes the treasurer to transfer any unexpended and unencumbered monies remaining in the fund at that time to the state general fund.

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

(Adds R.S. 40:1669)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original bill:

1. Define "municipality".
2. Require the approving entity to submit the approved request to the state treasurer for payment to the eligible entity.
3. Make technical changes.