
DIGEST

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HB 223 Original

2024 Regular Session

Phelps

Abstract: Authorizes certain city and parish code enforcement personnel to enter private structures.

Present law authorizes municipalities and parishes to prescribe civil fines for violations of certain types of ordinances, including housing ordinances. Existing law defines the term "housing violation" as only those conditions in privately owned structures which are determined to constitute a threat or danger to the public health, safety, or welfare or to the environment or a historic district. Existing law further provides that in municipalities with a population of 70,000 or more, and in other specified parishes and municipalities, the term shall also encompass building codes, zoning, vegetation, and nuisance ordinances.

Present law authorizes municipalities and parishes to adopt ordinances establishing an administrative adjudication procedure for holding hearings related to violations. Additionally authorizes certain parishes and municipalities to use administrative adjudication procedures in matters involving licensing, permits, and other ordinance violations.

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes a municipality or parish to authorize code enforcement personnel to enter private structures to inspect such structures for housing violations as defined by present law. Any such entry shall be made pursuant to a request from a resident or tenant and shall comply with guidelines adopted by the municipality or parish. Requires that findings from an inspection be reported to the hearing officer.

(Adds R.S. 13:2575(B)(4))