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## DIGEST

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HB 518 Original

2024 Regular Session

Knox

**Abstract:** Prohibits booking agents from booking short-term rentals at property that is not in compliance with local ordinances regulating short-term rentals; provides for civil penalties for violations.

Proposed law prohibits a booking agent from booking a short-term rental at a property that is not in compliance with a municipal or parish ordinance that establishes restrictions on or regulations of short-term rentals. Provides that a booking agent who violates proposed law is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,500 per transaction.

Proposed law authorizes the attorney general or the local district attorney to conduct an investigation of an alleged violation and initiate a civil action to assess civil penalties. Requires the attorney general or district attorney, as applicable, to provide the booking agent with at least 30 days to cease booking short-term rentals in violation of proposed law. Provides that the booking agent may be liable for all costs, expenses, fees related to investigations and proceedings associated with the violation, including attorney fees, and legal interest.

Proposed law creates the Short-term Rentals Violations Fund for the purpose of providing funding for the Main Street Program. Civil penalties collected pursuant to proposed law are to be deposited into the fund and available exclusively for use by the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism for purposes of the Main Street Program.

(Amends the title of Chapter 2-A of Title 21 of L.R.S.; Adds R.S. 21:62)