The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Frances Aucoin.

DIGEST

SB 287 Original | 2024 Regular Session | Duplessis

Present law requires that to the extent funds are available, the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with public and private sector partners, establish a financing program that provides grants and loans to healthy food retailers that increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables and other affordable healthy food in underserved communities.

Proposed law retains present law but deletes the language "to the extent funds are available".

Present law allows the department to contract with one or more qualified nonprofit organizations or community development financial institutions to administer the program through a public-private partnership, to raise matching funds, market the program statewide, evaluate applicants, make award decisions, underwrite loans, and monitor compliance and impact.

Proposed law provides that the department must contract with qualified nonprofit organizations or community development financial institutions.

Present law provides that the program must provide funding on a competitive, one-time basis for eligible projects.

Proposed law deletes the language "one-time basis", and requires the program to provide funding on a competitive basis.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 3:296(D)(1),(2), and (3))