
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)]

HB 565 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Knox

Abstract: Provides relative to construction work on the exterior of historic buildings owned by the state or a parish or municipality.

Proposed law provides that in addition to all other applicable provisions of law, when the state or a parish or municipality undertakes restoration, renovation, or other construction work performed on the exterior of property that is designated as a landmark, located within a historic district, on the National Register of Historic Places, or a contributing element of a National Register District, the following also apply:

- (1) All such work shall adhere to guidelines and best practices outlined by the state historic preservation office and the Dept. of the Interior. No such work shall be undertaken on critical elements of our architectural and cultural heritage without compliance with preservation guidelines and consultation with qualified preservation professionals.
- (2) The entity undertaking the work shall notify the legislators representing the districts in which the property is located.
- (3) The entity undertaking the work shall hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on the design of and plan for the renovation or other construction.
- (4) Following the public hearing, the state agency, parish, or municipality undertaking the work, the local historic district commission, or a legislator representing the legislative district in which the property is located may request the opinion of the state historic preservation office on whether the proposed work is appropriate to the historic building.
- (5) The state agency, parish, or municipality undertaking the work shall consider the opinion of the state historic preservation office prior to beginning the work.

Proposed law provides that proposed law does not apply to routine maintenance, the repair or replacement of a historic feature with the same or matching material, emergency repairs, or work required for the public safety.

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

(Adds R.S. 25:747)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Limit applicability of proposed law to landmarks and historic districts established pursuant to specified state or federal laws.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Limit applicability of proposed law to work on the exterior of buildings and exclude certain other work.
2. Remove proposed law authorizing the state historic preservation officer to issue cease and desist orders and to impose or seek imposition of fines or penalties.
3. Authorize the local historic district and local legislators to request the opinion of the state historic preservation officer on whether the proposed work is appropriate.