
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 173 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Illg

Abstract: Authorizes state park wardens to enforce litter laws statewide.

Present law authorizes state park wardens to enforce all rules and regulations of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of state parks, and all laws of the state of La. within their jurisdiction.

Proposed law retains present law and authorizes state park wardens to enforce litter laws statewide and to issue citations for littering by mail or in person.

Proposed law authorizes the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to bring a civil action to recover penalties for intentional and simple littering citations.

Proposed law creates an adjudicatory hearing process and provides requirements for notice and opportunity and for appeals to the judicial district court.

Proposed law provides for the judgment to become final for debt recovery purposes after time for appeals has expired and assesses costs and attorney fees to anyone who is assessed a civil penalty.

Proposed law requires that any civil penalties recovered be deposited into the litter abatement account within the Conservation Fund.

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

(Amends R.S. 56:1688(C); Adds R.S. 56:1688.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Authorize the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to bring a civil action to recover penalties for intentional and simple littering citations and to promulgate and enforce the rules and regulations necessary to carry out the process.
2. Create an adjudicatory hearing process and provides requirements for notice and opportunity and for appeals to the judicial district court.

3. Provide for the judgment to become final for debt collection purposes after time for appeals has expired and for the assessment of attorney fees and costs against anyone who is assessed a civil penalty.
4. Require that any civil penalties recovered be deposited into the litter abatement account within the Conservation Fund.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Clarify hearings are held in the district office for the parish where the defendant is domiciled or where the violation occurred.
2. Add effective date upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.
3. Make technical changes.