## **DIGEST**

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HB 99 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

**Billings** 

**Abstract:** Requires state statutes or rules to be interpreted de novo in judicial review cases.

<u>Present law</u> provides that a person who is aggrieved by a final decision or order in an adjudication proceeding is entitled to judicial review.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and prohibits a court, administrative judge, or hearing officer presiding over a contested case, hearing, or appeal from deferring to a state agency's interpretation of a state statute or rule and requires the court, administrative judge, or hearing officer to interpret the meaning of the statute or rule de novo.

<u>Present law</u> provides that an agency, official of an agency, or other persons acting on behalf of an agency or official are not entitled to judicial review. Further provides that <u>present law</u> does not apply to DCFS in appeals brought pursuant to the Children's Code.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals <u>present law</u> and provides that if an agency conducting an adjudication proceeding issues a final decision or order, the agency is not entitled to seek judicial review.

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

(Amends R.S. 49:978.1(A) and 992(B)(3); Adds R.S. 49:978.1(H))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and Governmental</u> <u>Affairs</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

- 1. Make technical changes.
- 2. Repeal present law prohibition against an agency seeking judicial review.
- Add language that prohibits an agency from seeking judicial review on a final decision or order during an adjudication proceeding if the agency issued the final decision or order.