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## DIGEST

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HB 274 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Owen

**Abstract:** Provides for the transfer of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) to the Military Department.

Present law (R.S. 29:725) establishes and provides for the purpose and functions of GOHSEP.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 36:4(B)(3)) places GOHSEP within the office of the governor.

Present law (R.S. 36:4(B)(7)) also places the Military Dept. within the office of the governor, but excludes GOHSEP from the Military Dept.

Proposed law repeals present law (R.S. 36:4(B)(3)) and amends present law (R.S. 36:4(B)(7)) to place GOHSEP within the Military Dept.

Present law provides that the director of GOHSEP shall be appointed by the governor, subject to Senate confirmation.

Proposed law provides that the director of GOHSEP shall be employed by and report directly to the adjutant general who shall fix the salary of the director.

Present law provides that the director of GOHSEP may appoint assistant deputy directors as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the office.

Proposed law provides that the director of GOHSEP shall employ, instead of appoint, a deputy director, and may employ additional deputies and assistants.

Present law provides that the director of GOHSEP is subject to the direction and control of the governor and is responsible for carrying out the programs for homeland security and emergency preparedness for the state.

Proposed law provides that the director is subject to the direction and control of the governor, acting through the adjutant general and further provides that for actions related to a gubernatorially declared disaster or emergency, the agency and director shall report to the governor or a person designated by the governor for that purpose.

Proposed law further provides that present law and proposed law shall not supersede the powers, duties, or authority of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police.

(Amends R.S. 29:1(B), 722(A)(1), 724(B)(3), 725(A), (B), (C)(1), (E), and (H), and 726(A) and R.S. 36:4(B)(7); Repeals R.S. 36:4(B)(3))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Provide for the authority of GOHSEP related to general functions of the office.
2. Provide for the employment of a deputy director and additional deputies and assistants.
3. Provide for the authority of GOHSEP and the office of state police during a gubernatorially declared state of emergency.
4. Remove changes to the office of interoperability.